

Arthur Miall
18 Bowdrie St. E.C.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1050.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
 { STAMPED 6d.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

The Executive Committee being about to issue a series of publications, adapted to various classes, propose to include among them a work for young persons of from about fourteen to seventeen years of age; and for its production they offer a prize of 50l.

Without restricting the writers in respect to form, the Committee wish that the proposed work should contain an exposition of the Society's principles, in their religious, moral, and political aspects. It may be either of a historical, biographical, or mainly expository character. It should be written in harmony with the pledged neutrality of the Society in relation to matters of doctrine and Church government and worship. It should not exceed from 150 to 200 pages, of about 220 words to a page.

The manuscripts, marked by initials or mottoes, should be forwarded not later than the 25th March, 1866, to "The Secretary," 2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, with the authors' names in separate envelopes, to be opened after adjudication.

The names of the adjudicators will be announced in a future advertisement.

The Committee reserve to themselves the right of dealing, as they may see fit, with the MS. selected by the adjudicators as entitled to the prize.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, London.

METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, NEWINGTON.

A BAZAAR for the SALE of USEFUL and FANCY ARTICLES will be held in the LECTURE-HALL and SCHOOL-ROOM on TUESDAY, Dec. 26th, and three following days.

The Bazaar will open on Tuesday, at Twelve o'clock; other days at Ten o'clock, and close at Nine p.m. each day.

Admission, One Shilling.

The entire proceeds will be devoted to building Baptist Chapels in and around London.

A SECOND BAZAAR, in aid of the FUNDS for RE-BUILDING WESTMINSTER CHAPEL (Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, Pastor), will be held in the Schoolrooms adjoining the Chapel, James-street, Buckingham-gate, on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 28th, and 29th.

It is expected that there will be several Christmas-Trees at the Bazaar, and it is suggested that this will be a favourable opportunity for Purchasing Christmas Presents.

Tickets of admission, One Shilling; after Six o'clock, Sixpence. Juvenile Tickets, Half-price.

Goods to the value of the Tickets for Admission used on the last day, will be given if desired.

Doors open on Wednesday at Twelve o'clock, and on Thursday and Friday at Eleven o'clock.

Tickets to be had of Mr. Binge, 23, Stockbridge-terrace; Mr. Hughes, 12, King-street, St. James's; Mr. Jenner, 33, St. James's-street; Mr. Stanbury, 179, Sloane-street; Mr. Emmens, 14, Ebury-street; Mr. Colliart, 98, St. Martin's-lane; Mr. Laws, 19, Queen's-row; Miss Wilson, 8, Warwick-street; or of any Members of the Committee, or of the Secretaries.

Mrs. MARTIN, 19, Belgrave-road.

Mrs. TAYLOR, 14, Chichester-street, S.W.

JAMAICA.—The Testimony of an Eye-witness. The Rev. ALFRED BOURNE, who was in the Heart of the Disturbed Districts during the so-called Rebellion, will deliver a LECTURE on the subject on THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, DECEMBER 21st, at CLAYLAND'S CHAPEL, CLAPHAM-ROAD (near Kennington Church).

The Rev. BALDWIN BROWN will take the Chair at Seven o'clock.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

TESTIMONIAL to Mr. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary of the Orphan Working School, Haverstock-hill, N.W.—The Committee are anxious that his services should receive a special mark of approval, and solicit SUBSCRIPTIONS, or collections of one guinea and upwards, from so many as may sympathise with them in their endeavour to reward his long and faithful services, rendered to one of the most important institutions in the kingdom.

TREASURERS.

H. E. Gurney, Esq., Lombard-street, V.P. and Treasurer of the O. W. S.

George Moore, Esq., Bow-churchyard, Cheapside.

Amount received, £405 5s. 6d.

Subscriptions will be received by the Treasurers; the Honorary Secretaries, at 56, Ludgate-hill, E.C.; and the following Bankers—The London Joint-Stock Bank, Princes-street; London and County, Lombard-street; Bank of London (Charging-cross Branch). Post-office orders upon the Chief Office, London, to be made payable to either of the Honorary Secretaries.

WILLIAM HOLT,
GEORGE S. MEASON, } Hon.
 } Secs.
 W. N. WORTLEY,

December 6, 1865.

URGENT APPEAL.—480l. has already been raised, with additional and liberal donations of labour and material, in the construction and establishment of Sunday and day-schools at Swanage, amongst a poor and labouring class of people. 300l. more is now required. A heavy responsibility has for a series of years been resting upon a minister of Christ, which it is most desirable to remove. Hon. secretary, Rev. Geo. Hinds, Swanage, Dorset; treasurer, Mr. A. Gillingham. All donations to be forwarded to the secretary, and a receipt, signed by the treasurer, will be returned for sums not less than half-a-crown, unless accompanied with extra stamp. Circulars on application.

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Address "Beta," care of Mr. G. W. Dale, Printer and Book-seller, 37, Market-street, Bradford, Yorkshire.

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CLASSES will MEET again after the Christmas recess on THURSDAY, January 4, 1866. The fees, and in most of the classes the subjects, are so arranged that Lay Students can conveniently enter at this period of the session.

Early in January, Dr. LANKESTER, F.R.S., will begin a course of Lectures on Chemistry, and another on Physiology, with special reference to the Matriculation and B.A. Examinations in the University of London.

The Seasonal Syllabus and all other necessary information may be obtained on application to the Secretary, at the College, Finchley New-road, N.W.

W. FARRER, LL.B., Secretary.

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References: Rev. James Spence, D.D., London; Rev. Alex. Raleigh, D.D., London; Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., St. Leonard's, Sussex.

Prospectuses on application.

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TERMS:

For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 40 guineas.

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References to the parents of the pupils.

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THE "SINGER" MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
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EMPEROR LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL SOIREE of this Society was held on WEDNESDAY WEEK at the Great Hall of the Whittington Club, Arundel-street, Strand. There were about 500 persons present. Mr. Ebenezer Clarke occupied the chair, and was supported by the majority of his co-directors.

Mr. E. CLARKE jun., (the secretary), read a report which had been prepared for the occasion, as follows:—

"The Directors of the Emperor Life and Fire Assurance Societies, acting on the acknowledged principle of the power of mutual co-operation, have invited their Agents, Shareholders, and the Assurers, in and near the metropolis, to meet in this social manner, trusting that it will not only increase that kindly feeling already existing, but also conduce to the prosperity of the Societies.

"Your Directors are able again to congratulate you on the satisfactory increase of the business. During the year, 784 additional life proposals have been received for the sum of 79,275*l.*, and 671 policies have been issued for assurances, amounting to 73,180*l.*, increasing the total amount of proposals received to this date to 12,391 for 804,081*l.*, and the policies issued to 10,524 for 621,158*l.*

"The claims by death, endowments, and annuities for the year have amounted to 3,240. A bonus has been paid or added to the policies of the assured, on policies entitled to the same, varying according to age from 22 to 45 per cent. on the premiums previously paid; and a dividend of 5 per cent. with a bonus of 1 per cent. has been paid to the Shareholders.

"The Directors have advanced the practice of assurance, by adapting their tables to all classes and circumstances; thus assurances for life may be effected with profits which may be so applied as to render the policy payable during the lifetime of the assured without extra payment; and for the convenience of those whose incomes are small, they allow half the premium to be paid, with all the advantages of a life policy, on the payment of interest at the rate of 5 per cent. on the balance of the half premium unpaid, for a period of seven years; their joint-life assurance offers to many an opportunity for securing an amount in case of the death of a partner or co-trustee; the plan adapted to endowments is especially useful in providing a sum for children and minors on attaining the age of 14 to 21 years, or to adults on attaining the age of 50, 55, 60, or 65; and the annuities for a good investment for the aged, who cannot by any other means secure so large an income upon their capital. Second-class lives can also be assured on an equitable principle, without increasing the amount of premium.

"The deposit assurance supplies the place of a savings bank, with a life assurance at the same time, giving, for example, to the representative of a person aged 30, in case of death, 2*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* for every 1*l.* deposited, while it allows him to withdraw the amount paid previous to death if required (with interest), and to surrender his policy, as shown by table annexed:—

Age.	Amount of Assurance for every £1 deposited.	Age.	Amount of Assurance for every £1 deposited.
15	£ s. d. 2 13 3	35	£ s. d. 1 18 5
20	3 9 2	40	1 15 4
25	2 5 4	45	1 12 9
30	2 1 6	50	1 10 1

"To meet the growing necessities of borrowers in building societies, tables of uniform annual premiums have been prepared, to secure the future payment of 10*l.* per annum for the remainder of a term of years, should the life fall within that time, and a borrower will be enabled to secure the amount of his future repayments to a building society in the event of his death, and thus to leave his property so acquired to his widow or family entirely free from any further liability, and who will consequently be in immediate possession of the power to receive the income derived from the future rents, or to secure to others an annuity for the remainder of the period named in the event of the death of the assurer.

"Considered as an investment, life assurance offers considerable advantages; persons, for example, at the age of 20 live upon an average 40 years and 4 months. The premium at the age of 20 would be 1*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, while, if death occurred immediately after the receipt thereof, the 100*l.* would be paid to the representative of the deceased, thus:—

Age.	Expectancy of Life.	Premium to secure £100 at death.	Total amount that will be paid by the Assurer if he lives the full term of expectancy.
	yrs. mos.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	40 4	1 15 1	70 15 0
25	37 0	1 19 9	73 10 9
30	33 8	2 5 2	76 0 7
35	30 5	2 11 10	78 16 7
40	27 2	3 0 1	81 12 3
45	23 10	3 10 9	84 6 2
50	20 7	4 5 2	88 13 0

"There is scarcely any investment that offers, at so small a cost, so immediate a security as life assurance, and the directors therefore respectfully urge upon all present the importance of extending its advantages, for while it is a source of individual profit, it proves a public benefit.

"In the fire department the business continues to increase. Proposals have been received during the year for assurance amounting to 309,233*l.*, and policies effected amounting to 275,343*l.*, increasing the total amount proposed to 2,272,787*l.*, and the assurances effected to 1,915,343*l.*, thus greatly exceeding the business of any preceding year.

"The Government have during the present year yielded to well-directed efforts on the part of the offices and the public, and have reduced the duty from 3*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per cent., and it is hoped that during the coming year a still further reduction will be made, or even a total repeal obtained. By aiding the efforts of those who are labouring for this end, you will be encouraging the provident practice of insurance, which ought to be free from the burden of taxation."

The CHAIRMAN said it was a matter of congratulation to the directors to see they were surrounded by so many of their old friends and connections, and at the same time they appeared to have made a great number of new ones during the past year. They would find by the report that there had been a progressive increase in the business of the Society during the year. The Society was now not only in a position of safety, but prosperous. They believed in what he called the "law of adaptation." In most assurance offices, when a man's life was found to be tainted with some local or chronic disease, he could not be assured in the ordinary way; but in this Society, by an equitable arrangement without extra premium, they could take such persons, with safety to the office, and to the parties assuring. (Cheers.)

Mr. POWELL (a Director) said they would observe from the Report, that while their business during the year had increased, their claims had been less than they were in the previous year. That was a very capital sign, because it was very natural to expect that with a larger business the claims would be greater.

After some further remarks by Mr. Bontems (deputy chairman), Mr. Crampton (of Brentford), Mr. Mann, and Mr. Hornmond, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sarll and the choir, and another to Mr. Clarke (the chairman), and the proceedings concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

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THE BULL'S HEAD,
Package.

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for general use, Epps's Cocoa is distinguished as invigorating, with a grateful smoothness and delicious aroma. Dr. Hassall, in his work, "Food and its Adulterations," says, "Cocoa contains a great variety of important nutritive principles; every ingredient necessary to the growth and sustenance of the body." Again, "As a nutritive, cocoa stands very much higher than either coffee or tea." Directions:—Two teaspoonfuls of the powder in a breakfast cup, filled up with boiling water or milk. Secured in tin-lined 1*lb.*, 1*lb.*, and 1*lb.* labelled packets, and sold at 1*s.* 6*d.* per *lb.* by grocers, confectioners, and chemists. Each packet is labelled, "J. Epps, Homoeopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell-street; 170, Piccadilly; and 43, Threadneedle street. Manufactory, 393, Easton-road."

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DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.

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Profits Divided amongst Members ..	145,389
Claims Paid	209,310
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ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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More than 25,000 Children under ten years of age die in London every year.

There is most eminent medical authority for declaring that the poor, as a class, will gain more from the establishment of a Hospital for Children's diseases than they would from any general Hospital.

This Hospital now provides seventy-five beds for in-patients, and upwards of a thousand out-patients are relieved weekly.

The Committee earnestly solicit contributions.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

November, 1865.

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THE Nonconformist.

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VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1050.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20, 1865.

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN JAMAICA.

MORE work for the Liberation Society, and an urgent call to it! We have no doubt that its Executive Committee will respond with their wonted promptitude, fearlessness, and energy. The island of Jamaica long since attracted attention to its anomalous ecclesiastical condition. The difficulty was to know how to get at it. Governor Eyre and the House of Assembly have solved the problem. They have taken care to furnish the Society with sufficient ground for immediate action. We trust their challenge will be accepted.

If Governor Eyre's treatment of the coloured population of Jamaica has been characterised by the same haste, the same passion, the same blind and indiscriminate malevolence, as he has displayed towards the "unauthorised" but independent religious teachers of the negro, and more especially those of the Baptist persuasion, it is to be apprehended that he will make out but a poor case for himself before the Commission of Inquiry. It will be remembered that he attributed the insurrection at Morant Bay, which he regarded as a premature outbreak of a general conspiracy of the blacks to massacre the whites, to Mr. Underhill's letter to Mr. Cardwell, which he was the first to publish. In his despatch to the Colonial Secretary describing the riot which had been suppressed in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and the steps he had taken to crush it, he refers, as one of the causes of that lamentable outbreak, to "a few Baptist missionaries who endorse, at public meetings or otherwise, all the untruthful statements or innuendoes of Dr. Underhill's letter," although he qualifies this by adding that "the large majority of the Baptist ministers were most anxious to support the authorities, to teach their people to be loyal and industrious, and to endorse the advice given to the peasantry by her Most Gracious Majesty." Having thus in one and the same breath arraigned and exculpated the Baptist missionaries, he goes on to show his consistency by submitting to the Jamaica Legislature a bill to regulate places of worship which even the House of Assembly had not the hardihood to sanction. Who may have been responsible for the original draft of the measure is a point on which we will not hazard a conjecture, but it is sufficiently clear that the Jamaica Government not only approved, but sought to get it passed. Truly described, it may be called a measure for the suppression of Dissent throughout the colony.

It requires the registration of every place of religious worship at the expense of three pounds sterling stamp duty, as a condition of the legality of any assembly held therein—a Government certificate, at the cost of two pounds, for every teacher or preacher—and a license, at one pound, for every schoolmaster or schoolmistress.

For breach of the first provision, the penalty is not to exceed twenty pounds nor to be less than forty shillings—of the second the maximum is increased to fifty pounds and the minimum twenty, or imprisonment with or without hard labour for twelve or six months. These provisions indicate the general drift of the Bill—but in order to show its real purport we shall quote two clauses, "The Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, shall have power to cancel or suspend the authority, by this Act provided, to any person to teach or preach, or act as a schoolmaster or schoolmistress respectively, as aforesaid, and to restore such authority, with the like advice as aforesaid, when the Governor shall see fit." That reveals the true object of the measure, especially when taken in connection with a subsequent clause to the effect that, "Nothing in this Act contained shall affect the celebration of Divine service according to the rites and ceremonies of the United Church of England and Ireland, the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, and the Roman Catholic Church, &c."

Of course, the whole body of European missionaries resented the introduction of this gratuitous insult, and very properly came to a unanimous resolution to close every Dissenting chapel and school in the island, should the Bill become law, and to throw the whole responsibility of what might follow upon the Government. The House of Assembly, however, gave the measure such a rough reception that Governor Eyre saw fit to withdraw it. But there is some talk of introducing a similar Bill, though of less general application—a Bill, namely, for the repression of "ignorant and unauthorised men as teachers of religion in the country"—the Government, we suppose, to be judges of what is enlightened and therefore entitled to political authorisation. We are glad to see that the subject is already attracting notice. We learn that at a meeting consisting of gentlemen of various denominations held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, a resolution condemnatory of this contemplated violation of religious liberty was passed, and a request to her Majesty's Government was agreed upon "that they will, in this and every such case, instruct her Majesty's representative, the Governor of Jamaica, to refuse his sanction to any such interference with the religious privileges of the people, and that her Majesty's Government will continue impartially to secure to every class of her Majesty's subjects in that island equal religious and educational privileges."

We hope the matter will be carried a little further by the friends of religious equality at home. We believe that the expenditure of the Government for ecclesiastical purposes, under the authority of the House of Assembly, amounts in Jamaica to very little short of 45,000*l.* a-year. The members of the Establishment barely number an eighth of the population, and it is their form of faith and worship that is supported, to the extent already specified, by revenues drawn from general taxation. The bishop, we understand, has been for many years non-resident, and, if report is to be credited, his clergy are not pre-eminently distinguished for their ability, their self-sacrifice, or their adaptation to their sphere. It is time to assail this gross abuse. 45,000*l.* is a large sum to wring from the black peasantry in support of the religion of the white population. Indeed, we can hardly conceive, after all that has happened, that the burdensome system can be suffered to prolong its existence. At any rate, this is the proper time, the very nick of opportunity, for placing the ecclesiastical affairs of the island on a sound footing. We cannot suppose that the resident missionaries will listen for a moment to a measure bearing the character of religious censorship even although they should be exempt from its operations. But it is clear that even self-defence demands an aggressive movement, and our hope and conviction is that advantage will be taken of the blundering haste with which the Governor and his Executive Com-

mittee have showed their hands, to subject the authorities at home to such moral pressure as will compel them to put the island of Jamaica on the same footing of ecclesiastical equality as that which obtains in several other, not to say more important, of her Majesty's colonial dominions.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

"NEARER and nearer!" Two illustrations of these words are given in four essays just published by clergymen of the Established Church on Free Worship and Church Finance. We have read the essays twice. On the first reading we felt inclined to quote about half of their contents in these columns; but as we should have had to quote about a hundred and twenty closely printed pages, we thought it desirable to read them a second time. On the second reading we could not see how we could quote less than two-thirds of the contents; and have therefore resolved not to give the work a third reading, and simply to describe its contents. The four essays, with a preface by Archdeacon Sandford, are prize essays of the Free and Open Church Movement. Two of them are devoted to the evils of the pew system in the Established Church, and two to a consideration of the right doctrines of Church Finance. They are executed with unequal literary ability, but with great sincerity of purpose and honesty of work. The first two abound especially in proofs of the alienation of the poor and the lower section of the middle classes from the Established Church. As one writer—the Rev. T. P. Browning, of Newton on Ouse—says, the Established Church "does not preach the Gospel to the poor." As another writer says, it is the "rich man's Church." It is further averred that when the poor go anywhere they go to Dissenting places of worship, where they are treated as equals; and not to "church," where they are treated as inferiors, and degraded in every way. These statements are not new. Archdeacon Sandford, in his Seventh Hampton Lecture, made similar assertions, and backed them with overwhelming proofs. But although they are not new, they are more valuable than almost any to the same effect that we have had before. They give proof that the clerical mind is not wholly oblivious to the facts of history and of surrounding life, and that it is possible for a man to be a clergyman and yet be honest. The pleasant Church Defence fiction of the "poor man's Church" never received weightier blows than those dealt against it by these four brave essayists.

One would have thought that this was enough for four men to do at once; but the latter two of the essayists have chosen the special subject of Church Finance. In the first of these two essays—the ablest, in a literary point of view, of the whole four—the Rev. James Hamilton, M.A., of Chipping Camden, discusses the question of Ancient and Modern Church Finance. Here it is proved that the Voluntary principle was the principle of the New Testament and of the early Christian Church; and here it is suggested that the Church has lost rather than gained by abandoning it; here it is proved again that she always does gain when she reverts to it—as in the case of Church-rates—as an alternative of the compulsory system; and here, again, it is proved that it is the very means on which the Church can rely for her future support and extension.

Is not that enough? Not at all. The Rev. W. P. S. Bingham, of Derry-hill, Wilts, takes up the same topic, and drives the wedge a little further home. A famous argument of "Church defenders" is that ministers under the Voluntary system are in a little better position than footmen or butlers, whose main aim it must be to please their masters. This position Mr. Bingham has taken upon himself to turn, and therefore devotes a considerable portion of his essay

to proving that the Voluntary system is perfectly consistent with a proper ministerial independence. The reader will now see how much we should have had to have quoted if we had quoted at all from the essays, and how much better it is that we should refer them to the essays themselves, or, failing them, to the publications of the Liberation Society, in which, we have no doubt, ample justice will be done to them. With Mr. Ingle in our remembrance, we feel it to be desirable to add one word. The authors do not propose to abandon the present compulsory system of tithes and Church-rates. They wish to keep all the Church's pockets full—one filled by the constable from Dissenters and others, the other by Church people exclusively. As a matter of fact, of course, such a bastard system would not work. Principle opposed to principle, or to practice, ends like the arithmetical problem, What is $6 + 6 - 9 - 3$?—the equal of which is 0. We have faith, however, that these men will grow, and are quite content to let them grow. Their new principles, if they have taken any root, will very soon kill the old ones.

A fortnight since the *Clerical Journal* gave insertion to an article on the "Hare and the Tortoise," the hare being intended for the Liberation Society and the tortoise for the Church Institution. The occasion of this article was the recent Manchester Conference, and the fact that the hare seemed to be ubiquitous, and the tortoise not merely stationary, but nowhere. Of course the fable was kept in view, and it was suggested that the tortoise might beat after all. The tortoise's secretary has now replied to the article, thanking the writer for it, as a Turk is obliged to thank his master for a bastinado. The gist of the reply is that in the Parliamentary division lists of 1863, the tortoise was proved to have won, and that it has not been heard of recently, because the hare has changed its tactics and adopted a more insidious course. The "more insidious" (!) course is that of "pamphlets, lectures, and objections to Church rights raised in the various parishes." The secretary has, however, the modesty to say that "all has not been done that might have been done," and conjures Churchmen to imitate the "perfect organisation" of the Liberation Society, "their persistent energy, their liberal support to the cause they have in hand." The fable of the hare and the tortoise does not apply in this case. In the original the hare is, from certain causes, beaten, but the modern ecclesiastical hare neither rests nor sleeps, while the tortoise appears to do nothing but dream of success.

A rather interesting Church Congress on a small scale has been held at Stoney Stratford, the object of which was to devise some means of interesting the laity in the concerns of the Church. A good many suggestions were made. Prayer-meetings was one, but was tabooed; confession was not approved of; "brotherhoods" seem, to have received more favour, but Archdeacon Bickersteth and Mr. Hubbard both thought that if the system of this Church was carried out in its integrity, everybody would find what they wanted. Now, what is the system of the Church in "its integrity"? That is the question. Is it Ritualism and worship according to St. Margaret's; denunciations of Protestantism according to the *Church Review*; brotherhoods of the Guild of St. Albans with model Church coffins; prayer for the dead according to Sir H. J. Fust; excommunication of Dissenters according to the canons; and burial of the most wicked in sure and certain hope of a blessed resurrection? That seems to us the Church system according to Church standards. If you doubt some points of it, go to certain churches next Christmas-day, and you will find that you can do as Rome does without going to Rome. But on the whole you had better go elsewhere.

CHURCH-RATES AT MARGATE.—On the 13th Mr. James Croft and fourteen other persons were summoned before the magistrates for non-payment of Church-rates. Mr. Croft disputed the validity of the rate on several grounds—that no proper demand had been made, that an amendment had been refused, that no estimate had been produced, nor account rendered, and that the assessment was unequal. The bench overruled all the objections, and ordered a summons to be issued in this case, as well as in all the rest.

THE REV. DR. PARKER, of Manchester, delivered the first of his lectures on Nonconformity to a numerous audience in St. George's Hall, Bradford, on Monday evening. Mr. John Priestman presided. The Doctor, in conclusion, announced his intention of visiting small towns and villages for the purpose of expounding the principles of Nonconformity. In addition to this, he should print at least 500,000 extracts from his lectures, and distribute them gratuitously. He also intended to write an article weekly upon some branch of the Nonconformist question in a metropolitan newspaper, and send a copy of such newspaper, as far as the means furnished to him would permit, to every member of both Houses of

Parliament and the leading clergy and laity in the Establishment.

CAMBRIDGE—TRINITY COLLEGE LIST.—The list gives the names of 143 men, divided into eight classes. In the first class the following are placed in alphabetical order:—Airy, O., Chesshire, Christie, Darwin, Duguid, Gaskell, Hetherington, Jackson, E., Knight, Lewis, Rawlins, Reed, C. E. B., Swettenham, Tarring, J. K., Taylor, J. H., Tomlins, Warren, Williams.

POPERY DILUTED.—Strange things are heard of from the church of St. Paul, Lorrimer-square. Watching the dead, lighting huge candles around the bodies, and chanting and processions, are talked about as things of course, and as constituting an established order of things.—*South London Chronicle*.

BISHOP COLENSO.—According to intelligence by the last Cape mail, preparations were being made at Natal to receive Dr. Colenso. A congratulatory address to him had been signed by 130 persons of all denominations and shades of belief. The Bishops of Cape-town, Graham's Town, and the Free State had publicly pronounced that to join the communion of Dr. Colenso would be to separate from the communion of the Church of England, and recommended that the clergy should elect another bishop, the choice to be approved by the faithful laity.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.—At a *soirée* in Bristol-street U.P. Church, Dr. Cairns, of Berwick, made the important statement that the final report of the committee on the proposed union of the Free, United Presbyterian, Reformed Presbyterian, and English Presbyterian Churches will come before the meetings of the Church Courts in May. Dr. Cairns was, of course, prevented by etiquette from entering into details; but, judging from the hints thrown out, there seems every reason to believe that the recommendation of the committee will be that the churches should unite.—*Edinburgh Courier*.

STATISTICS OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP AT MIDDLESBOROUGH.—From a printed circular which has been sent to us, we learn that there are at present fourteen places of worship in Middlesborough, exclusive of the churches, containing accommodation for 6,790 people to be comfortably seated, viz.:—The Wesley Chapel, 950 sittings; Centenary, 870; United Free Methodists, 600; Reform Methodists, 400; Primitive Methodists, 500; Presbyterians, 670; Independents, 600; Welsh Baptists, 250; Unitarians, 150; Roman Catholics, 800; Society of Friends, 250; Welsh Independents, 150; Baptists, 400; Bethel, 300;—total, 6,790 sittings. On Mr. Horace Mann's assumption that accommodation is required for 58 per cent. of the population, and estimating that there are at present 25,000 inhabitants in Middlesborough, there should be a provision for the spiritual wants of 14,500 people; the Nonconformists have provided for nearly one-half of this number, leaving 7,710 to be provided for by the Episcopal body, but for which they have only accommodation for about 1,700, leaving 6,010 entirely unprovided for.

A COLONIAL BISHOP ON STATE CONNEXION.—In a recent session of the Legislature of New South Wales the Church party introduced a bill to give the force of law to certain "constitutions"—upon which they had agreed in synod. Bishop Tyrrell, of Newcastle, Australia, expressed his opinion of the proposed bill as follows:—"The Church of England is a spiritual body; its highest functions are spiritual, ministering spiritual blessings to its members. Its highest discipline is a purely spiritual discipline—and its highest punishment is the loss of spiritual privileges by expulsion or excommunication. It is thus in its highest character a voluntary body, every member remaining in it of his own free choice, for the sake of the spiritual blessings which he there enjoys,—and if he submits to any discipline imposed upon him, he does so of his own free choice, that he may not lose the spiritual privileges of his membership by expulsion; and whenever any branch of the Christian Church has accepted the aid of the State, to enforce communion with her—either by conferring special privileges on those in communion with her, or by imposing special civil disabilities on those not in her communion—the result to her has not been strength, but weakness. She has then invariably become fettered in the exercise of her highest spiritual functions." The bill was not passed.

HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—In 1860 the income of the Home Missionary Society was about 5,000*l.*; in 1865 it was about 6,000*l.* In 1860 the society employed 100 agents, and preached the Gospel among 307 villages and towns; in 1865 it has 164 agents, who preach and visit in 710 villages and towns. In 1860, it had no lay evangelists; in 1865 it has 60 lay evangelists who are constantly going about week-day and Sunday doing good. In 1860, 530 members were added to the churches; in 1865, 734 have been added. In 1860 the society had three mission stations amongst the English population of South Wales; in 1865 it has ten missions of this character, representing 30,000 people; who, but for this agency, would be, for the most part, without the means of grace. In 1860 the society provided for nearly half the cost of the mission stations; in 1865 it contributes only one-third of the cost, the balance being locally raised. In 1860 the stations were managed from London; in 1865 they are managed through county associations. It thus appears that this system of management has not only developed local resources, but added 60 per cent. to the effective power of the missions, at only twenty per cent. additional expenditure. But as the funds to meet this extra expenditure were specially raised, and are now exhausted, the committee not only earnestly appeal for renewed contributions and annual subscriptions, but for a permanent income of 10,000*l.* Towards this sum one friend offers 500*l.* a year for

three years, provided the balance be immediately raised. With this increased income, the society would be able to double the number of its evangelists, for county associations are not only ready to undertake their proportion, but for months past have been urging the society to send them forth into the harvest. Many applications for help have been reluctantly declined from a deficiency of resources; indeed, there are from forty to fifty urgent requests for grants to plant evangelists and mission pastors in spiritually-destitute districts and grouped stations, not one of which the committee can look at without an increase of funds. There are two millions and a half of people in the rural districts living in open neglect of the means of grace. No agency yet devised has proved equal to this lay evangelistic agency in dealing with these neglected masses, and therefore its extension and permanency is urgently desired.

BISHOP OF LONDON'S FUND.—A return has been prepared in reference to the operation of this fund since its establishment up to the end of the present year. It appears that grants have been made for 37 churches, 18 schools, 9 parsonage-houses, and for the purchase of 28 sites for such buildings, either wholly or partially, by means of this fund. Of these 37 churches, 16 have been consecrated, 6 are being built, and the works for the others will be begun as soon as sufficient funds are raised. Of the churches thus aided 12 have already been endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The grants for churches amount to 41,000*l.* for schools, to 9,605*l.*, for parsonages, to 1,600*l.*, and for the purchase of sites, to 23,424*l.* The grants for churches will provide or assist in providing 36,500 church sittings, of which 24,000 will be free. The total number of mission districts for which grants have been made is 82. Eighty missionary clergy and 35 lay agents are employed in these mission districts under grants from the fund. In 56 of these districts grants have been made for either one or more of these objects—sites, buildings, rent, or fittings of mission-rooms.

BUNHILL-FIELDS BURIAL GROUND.—The Bunhill-fields business is making progress. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have asked the Common Council for returns of the income derived from the ground while it was open for interments, and a select committee has been appointed by the court to consider the propriety of making these returns, and to take the matter generally under its cognisance. This will ensure prompt attention to every phase of a question which is now becoming urgent. As long as it remained under the purview of the City Lands Committee, which is already overworked, delays that might possibly be very mischievous were inevitable. The committee of gentlemen who first set the stone rolling by memorialising the corporation have now requested an interview with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the Protestant Dissenting Deputies have also appointed a deputation for the same purpose. The commissioners will thus, we hope, be obliged to disclose their intentions, and as soon as those are known the path of the corporation and the memorialists will be clear. We hope the commissioners will yield to the inevitable with a good grace, and even if an act of Parliament is required for the enfranchisement of the ground no difficulty can be apprehended if the commissioners lend it tacit acquiescence.—*Patriot*.

THE IRISH CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND EDUCATION.—The *Nation* newspaper, which seems fully informed of the movements of the Roman Catholic prelates, gives an account of the interview which the four archbishops of the Roman Catholic Church had lately in London with Sir George Grey, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Bruce. The prelates did not, that journal says, refer to the questions of a charter and endowment for the Catholic University, but propounded their views on the occasion as to the foundations of the whole structure of State education in Ireland. These views had reference to the primary system of national education in Ireland, which they wish absolutely overturned in favour of the denominational principle; to the model schools, which they describe as miniature "infidel colleges," and whose revenues, 40,000*l.* per annum, they desire to see appropriated to other uses; and to Trinity College, Dublin, which they would restore to Protestants exclusively, destroying its character as a mixed college on liberal principles, and taking away the portion of its revenues which might be deemed not required for the education of "a small (the Protestant) fraction of the people," and devoting them to what is characterised as a less exclusive and more comprehensive system—that, namely, of which the Catholic University on the one hand, and the Protestant University, curtailed in its resources, on the other, would be the type. It is not stated that the Government lent an ear to these large propositions.

CORNWALL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The half-yearly meetings of the Baptist Association of Cornwall were held at Falmouth on Wednesday week. In the morning business of a local nature was entered upon, and arrangements were made for the future work of the churches. In the afternoon a conference was held of various ministers and missionaries, when the question, "How can we more effectually reach the outlying population of our towns, &c.," was freely discussed, and several suggestive and practical addresses were delivered, which will doubtless be acted upon in the different towns of the county. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Baptist chapel, under the presidency of the Moderator (Mr. Gutheridge). After devotional exercises, several papers were read, the first by the Rev. J. Wilshire, of Penzance, on "The Condition of the Baptist Churches in Cornwall";

the second by the Rev. R. Sampson, of St. Austell, on "The Ecclesiastical and Doctrinal Principles of the Baptist Church"; the third on "Open Churches," by the Rev. W. Page, B.A., of Truro; the last on "The Work of Congregational Baptist Churches in Cornwall," by the Rev. G. S. Reaney. At this stage of the meeting the Moderator introduced the subject of the riots in Jamaica, when Mr. W. Bond moved, and the Rev. J. Allen, M.A. (Independent), seconded, a resolution condemnatory of the recent massacre in Jamaica. A second resolution, to the following effect, was moved by the Rev. J. Wilshire, and seconded by Mr. T. Hocken:—

That this association desires to express its deep sympathy with Dr. Underhill under the unfounded charges to which he has been exposed; and to record its high appreciation of his consistent and indefatigable labours in the cause of justice and humanity; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded at once to him.

Both resolutions were carried unanimously by the large congregation present. A memorial to the Government was at once signed by the Moderator, the secretary of the association (the Rev. O. Wilshire), and the various ministers and messengers present.

Religious Intelligence.

WEEK OF SPECIAL PRAYER.—The Evangelical Alliance again invite Christians in all parts of the world to devote the first week of 1866, from January 7 to the 14th, for united supplication, with thanksgiving, in the spirit of love, and in sympathy with our brethren who "in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both theirs and ours." The following topics, amongst others, are suggested as suitable for exhortation and intercession on the successive days of meeting:—Sunday, Jan. 7.—Sermons on the duties of Christians to each other, as members of the body of Christ. Monday, Jan. 8.—Acknowledgment of Divine mercies and confession of sin. Tuesday, Jan. 9.—The Christian Church: That its testimony may be clearer, its faith stronger, and its devotedness, liberality, and zeal enlarged. Wednesday, Jan. 10.—Nations—for their temporal and spiritual welfare; for Kings, and all in authority; for the maintenance of Peace; and for the increase of "righteousness, which exalteth a nation." Thursday, Jan. 11.—For Christian families, for servants, and for schools and colleges. Friday, Jan. 12.—For Christian Missions and Ministers, and for all engaged in Christian work. Saturday, Jan. 13.—For Christians in sorrow, in sickness, and in persecution: For the widow and the orphan. Sunday, Jan. 14.—Sermons, The blessing to be expected from the manifested union of believers in all countries.

LONG ACRES.—Mr. William Manchoe, of Hackney College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the church at Whitefield Chapel, Long Acres. Mr. Manchoe has supplied the pulpit of the above place under circumstances of a very gratifying character since June, and will shortly commence his stated ministry there.

PRESTON.—**HANOVER CHAPEL.**—The minister of this chapel (the Rev. W. R. Betts) has been ordered by his physicians to sojourn during the winter months on the Cornwall coast, and refrain from preaching altogether until March or April next. There is at present no stated minister at Hanover Chapel, but the pulpit is filled with supplies from Sunday to Sunday.

WOOLWICH.—On Thursday last, the recognition of the Rev. E. J. Willis, as pastor of the Congregational church assembling at the Masonic Hall, William-street, took place. A numerous party of the members and friends sat down to tea at five o'clock, and the recognition services took place during the evening. The Rev. T. James presided, and offered up the recognition prayer; and the Rev. J. Ferguson, LL.D., delivered the charge to the pastor and people.—*South London Press.*

BOOKING, ESSEX.—The Rev. S. Clarkson has announced his intention of resigning the pastorate of the Congregational church at this place at the close of this year.

LEATHERHEAD.—The Rev. William O'Neill has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Leatherhead, Surrey.

OVER DARWEN.—The Rev. Charles Stovell, late of Bristol College, has accepted the unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Baptist church at Over Darwen.

SHEFFIELD.—**SERVICES FOR WORKING MEN.**—The Revs. H. Tarrant and R. Staunton have taken, from the beginning of next year, the Alexandra Music Hall, Sheffield, capable of holding 4,000 persons, for special Sunday afternoon services for working men.

LEADS.—**CALL-LANE CHAPEL.**—On Monday evening week a public service was held in Call-lane Chapel (preceded by a tea-meeting) in recognition of the Rev. W. Taylor, successor to the late Rev. J. Tunnicliffe, as minister of Call-lane Chapel, in this town. The meeting was an agreeable and interesting one. After an address by the Rev. R. Horsfield, who presided, one of the deacons of the church stated how the Rev. W. Taylor came to be selected and appointed to the pastorate of that church. Mr. Taylor then briefly recounted his religious experience and views, after which the Rev. W. Underwood, President of the Baptist College at Chilwell, Nottingham, gave by request an impressive charge to the newly-elected pastor. The Rev. W. Best, B.A., gave an address to the church, and the Revs. R. M'All, G. B. Thomas, H. Marles, and R. Ward, also took part in the proceedings.

BRISTOL.—**HIGHBURY CHAPEL.**—On Tuesday evening the annual *soirée* of the congregation attend-

ing the above place of worship was held in the lecture-room attached to the chapel. In the course of the proceedings Mr. H. O. Wills spoke of the necessity of extending their borders in Clifton, and stated that ground had been secured for the building of a chapel on Clifton Down, the site being Down House, Rodney-place. It was calculated that the cost would be 7,000*l.* or 8,000*l.*, but he had received a cheque for 1,500*l.* from Mr. Ash, Mr. S. Morley had promised 500*l.*, Mr. Sommerville had also promised a good sum, and he had received promises of various amounts from other friends. 4,000*l.* more was required, and as they wished to build the chapel and open it free of debt, he hoped friends would come forward and assist them.

ABERDEEN.—The managers of Albion-street Congregational Church propose having a bazaar during the New-Year holidays, with a view to paying off the remaining debt upon their place of worship. As is well known, the Albion-street Church resulted from the Home Mission efforts of the Rev. J. H. Wilson, and although it is not a mission church in the special sense of the term, still, through the agencies of the congregation, not a little mission effort is expended in the district. Besides ordinary Sabbath services, and congregational prayer-meetings, there are connected with the church three Sabbath-schools, attended by from 400 to 500 children, one week-day school, a Female Mission Scheme, and Mothers' Meeting, for supplying clothing and Bibles to the poor upon favourable terms; a Penny Bank, with over 700 depositors, paying in between 400*l.* and 500*l.* every six months; and various district meetings for religious services in the neighbourhood of the chapel. Although there are about 500 members united with the church, and the congregation numbers about 800, a very large proportion of these belong to the humblest class in society, so that the congregation cannot be expected to do more than meet the ordinary expenses connected with the support of Christian ordinances among themselves.

DOLGELLY, MERIONETHSHIRE.—The Congregationalists of Merionethshire, at their annual meeting, the "Gymnaf," the English rendering would be the Assembly—held at Dolgelly, the 17th of June, 1863, deliberated on their position as a denomination in the county, when they decided that it was their duty to provide a convenient place of worship for the families belonging to their denomination who lived between Dolgelly and Llwyllyn, a distance of twelve miles, where there was not a single Independent chapel. The neighbouring ministers—four in number—engaged at once to commence preaching on Sundays in a farmhouse, called "Y Bwllwgwyn." The persons in the locality who had made a profession of religion with the Independents in distant churches, were soon formed into a church, and a Sabbath-school was established. The opening of several slate-quarries in the neighbourhood increased the population, and it was decided at Barmouth anniversary, last New Year's day, that a chapel should be erected; and a most eligible site was granted, at a nominal ground-rent, for the purpose, by the "Tyddyn Sheffrey Slate-quarry Company (Limited)," which is vested in the hands of seven trustees, for the use of the Congregational body. On Tuesday, the 5th inst., the Revs. Isaac Thomas, of Townyn, and James Jones, of Barmouth, preached in the new chapel to a thronged congregation, and Mr. Jones preached there again on Sunday last. The friends connected with the place have exerted themselves to the utmost of their means in contributed to the Building Fund thereof. Notwithstanding all their efforts, and those of their neighbour, Mr. Jones, of Barmouth, in the country of Merioneth, and elsewhere, and the donation of 30*l.* which Mr. S. Morley, M.P., with his characteristic benevolence, spontaneously contributed to their help, 138*l.* remains yet unpaid on the above sanctuary.

Correspondence.

AN INDEPENDENT JAMAICA INQUIRY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The state of things in Jamaica is of such a character as to demand that an independent commission entirely unconnected with Government, should be appointed to investigate the whole matter. The Americans appointed such a commission to inquire into the state of their prisoners of war. And I am quite certain that public opinion in this country will not be satisfied without such an inquiry into this grave question of Jamaica. It is a national affair, let the nation as such take it up.

Yours very truly,
Ebley, Dec. 14, 1865. E. JACOB.

THE COMING REFORM BILL.—**FURTHER ELECTORAL STATISTICS.**—The local authorities have been called upon to furnish the Government with a supplemental return, having for its object to ascertain the amount of rental in the counties, cities, and boroughs of England and Wales, minus the value of—1, railways; 2, quarries; 3, mines; 4, ironworks; 5, canals; 6, gasworks; and 7, docks, salts, springs, alumworks, waterworks, telegraphs, tolls, ferries, and bridges. The circular states that "these properties are assessed in a special manner in the income-tax assessment under Schedule A; and, in order to enable the board to institute a comparison between that assessment and the valuation lists or poor-rate, it is necessary that they should be deducted from the total of the gross estimated rental as appearing in the latter." It would therefore seem that Earl Russell's Cabinet is entering upon a very minute research into the value of holdings assessed to the property-tax and to the poor-rate, parish by parish.

Foreign and Colonial.

BELGIUM.

The funeral obsequies of the late King of the Belgians were celebrated at Brussels on Saturday, and were most imposing. The *facade* of the Palace was draped with black tapestry, studded with golden lions, and was illuminated by numerous funeral lamps. At 10.30 a.m. the Duke of Brabant entered the room where the body of the deceased King lay in state, having on his right the King of Portugal, and followed by the Count of Flanders and the Prince of Wales, the latter of whom wore the scarlet uniform of an English Field-Marshal, the Crown Prince of Prussia, and the Archduke Joseph of Austria, Prince Louis of Hesse, and Prince Arthur, who was dressed in the Highland costume. Other high personages followed, among whom were the Prince de Joinville, the Duke d'Aumale, and the Duke de Nemours. After the Royal Princes came the Envoys-Extraordinary from the different Courts of Europe, including Lord Sydney and General Grey. At eleven o'clock precisely the funeral *cortège* started. The hearse, drawn by eight horses caparisoned in black, presented a very imposing appearance. Crowds, silent and collected, thronged the streets, windows, and the roofs of the houses. All the shops and offices in Brussels were closed. The *cortège* arrived at Laeken at 2.30 p.m. The Duke of Brabant, with the King of Portugal on his right and the Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur on his left, took his place in the temporary church in front of the sarcophagus, followed by the other Princes and representatives of foreign Powers. The funeral service having been performed, the coffin was lowered into the family vault and placed to the right of the Queen of the deceased monarch.

On Sunday King Leopold II. took the oath to the Constitution before both Houses of the Belgian Parliament. Upon leaving the Palace at Laeken the Queen, in deep mourning, preceded the King in a carriage drawn by six horses. The King followed a few minutes afterwards. His Majesty received the congratulations of the Burgomaster of Laeken, and, after replying in gracious terms, mounted on horseback, accompanied by the Duke of Flanders and the Archduke Joseph of Austria. The King and Queen were received with enthusiastic cheers along the entire route, and arrived at the House of Parliament at midday, where a similar reception awaited them. The King wore the uniform of a Lieutenant-General of the Belgian army, and the Grand Cordon of the Order of Leopold. Bareheaded and with outstretched hands, his Majesty pronounced the words of the constitutional oath in a firm voice. The taking of the oath to the constitution created great enthusiasm. His Majesty then made a speech, in which he stated that Belgium, as well as himself, had lost a father. He was moved by the homage of the nation and the sympathy of foreign Sovereigns and Princes, and thanked them in his own name and in the name of his country. His Majesty continued:—

I shall religiously follow the example and the precepts of my father, and will never forget the duties imposed upon me by this precious inheritance. I will be a Belgian king from my heart and soul. I love those great institutions which guarantee order and liberty, and which are the most solid bases of the throne. My constitutional position keeps me aloof from the conflict of opinions, leaving the country to decide between them. I desire to give those who devote themselves to the crowning of the national edifice the assurance of my co-operation. By activity and progress Belgium will retain the support of foreign Powers.

His Majesty repeated the words uttered by his late father upon ascending the throne, "My heart knows no other ambition than to see you happy," and concluded by imploring the Divine assistance and protection for himself and Belgium. His Majesty's speech was received with great enthusiasm. The Queen then presented her son to the Chambers, and their Majesties took their departure amid shouts of "Vive le Roi! Vive la Reine! Vive le Comte de Hainault!"

On Sunday evening the presentation of Addresses to the King by the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies took place. The Queen and the Royal children and the Count of Flanders stood by the King, and the foreign Princes were present. The Prince de Ligne read the Address of the Senate, which expressed sympathy in the loss which his Majesty had suffered, and congratulated him upon his accession to the throne. The Address further announced the unalterable devotion of the Senate, and concluded with expressions of homage to the Queen. The Deputies were immediately afterwards admitted to the Royal presence, and the President read their Address, in which they assured the King of the attachment of the Belgian people to the Constitution, and its deep love to the dynasty. The Address also expressed the conviction that the King would preserve that which the courage of the people had founded, and the wisdom of King Leopold consolidated. The King in his reply to both Addresses declared himself animated by constitutional principles.

ITALY.

In the Chamber of Deputies at Florence on the 11th inst., Signor Sella made his financial statement in a crowded house. He announced a total deficit of 265,000,000*l.* for the year 1866, and proposed reductions in the expenditure of 30,000,000*l.*, in addition to those already made. He asked the House to vote an increase of the registration-tax, which would yield 20,000,000*l.*, and a new tax on doors and windows

calculated to furnish 25,000,000*l*. He also proposed a new tax upon grinding corn, which will give 100,000,000*l*. Signor Sella, in conclusion, stated that by the gradual increase of the revenue derived from the old taxes the remainder of the deficit would shortly disappear. The House seemed to be impressed with the necessity of making these new sacrifices in order to restore Italian credit. Signor Sella spoke for two hours.

AUSTRIA.

The Hungarian Diet was opened on the 14th by the Emperor in person. His Majesty said a contradiction existed between the statement of some Austrian statesmen, who asserted that Hungary had forfeited all her ancient constitutional rights by the insurrection of 1848-9, and the claim of the Hungarian political parties to have all constitutional reform rigorously carried out on the basis of historical rights. This contradiction could only be reconciled by the Pragmatic Sanction, which both parties had taken as their point of departure. The Emperor recognised the necessity of the self-government of Hungary, so far as it does not affect the unity of the Empire and the position of Austria as a great European Power. His Majesty wished to re-establish the dignity of the Hungarian crown, and in order to affect this step had been taken that Transylvania and Croatia should be represented in the Diet at Pesth. The first task before the Diet was to take into consideration those questions which concern all the provinces. The Emperor wished the Diet to keep in view, as their principal aim, the unity of the Empire and the position of Austria as a great Power. The second object of the Diet must be the revision of the laws of 1848, which were to be modified, since they were incompatible not only with the unity of the Empire, but with the rights of the Sovereign. These principal questions having been solved, the Diet must then discuss the programme of the coronation, after which the coronation of the Emperor of Austria as King of Hungary would take place. He hoped that the confidence between the nation and the King would be increased, and that the great work of decentralising Austria and Hungary would give satisfaction to all the nationalities composing the Empire. His Majesty's speech was frequently interrupted by cheers.

AMERICA.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Johnson, in his Message to Congress, brings forward an elaborate argument in favour of his reconstruction policy. He says:—

It is not too much to ask, on the one side, that the plan of restoration shall proceed in conformity with the willingness manifested to cast the disorders of the past into oblivion; and, on the other side, that the evidence of sincerity in the future maintenance of the Union shall be put beyond a doubt by the ratification of the Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery. This being adopted, it will remain for the States to resume their places in Congress, thereby completing the work of restoration. Treason has been committed, and persons charged with treason should have a fair trial before a civil tribunal, in order that the laws may be vindicated and truth established. Treason is a crime, and traitors should be punished, and crime made infamous; and it should be judicially settled that no State can secede.

Since the commencement of the year the navy has been reduced from 530 vessels, armed with 3,000 guns, to 117 vessels, with 830 guns. It is proposed to reduce the army to a peace footing, comprehending 50,000 troops, so organised as to admit of being increased to 82,000 men if the circumstances of the country should require it. The war estimate has been reduced from 516 millions to thirty-three millions.

President Johnson recommends the adoption of measures to reduce the currency, and that a policy be devised for the discharge of the National Debt within thirty years. He says:—

The gradual reduction of the currency is the only measure that can save the business of the country from disastrous calamities, and this can be almost imperceptibly accomplished by gradually funding the currency.

It would be his constant aim to promote peace and amity with foreign nations, and he believed them to be actuated by the same disposition.

The accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and had not been justified by the issue.

There was a marked difference in the system of neutrality pursued by foreign Powers. England in a great measure furnished the war material to the insurgents. British ships, manned by British subjects, and prepared for receiving armaments, had left British ports to prey on American commerce under shelter of insurgent commissions. The ships afterwards entered British ports to refit; this increased the desolation of the rebellious States by prolonging the contest, and it drove American commerce from the sea and transferred it to that Power which had created the necessity for such a change. A sincere desire for peace had induced him (President Johnson) to approve a proposal to submit the questions thus arising between the two countries to arbitration. These questions are so momentous that they must have commanded the attention of the great Powers, and are so interwoven with the peace and interest of every one of them as to have insured an important decision. England declined arbitration, and proposed a commission to settle mutual claims, excluding therefrom the aforesaid depredations. The proposition, in that very unsatisfactory state, had been declined. The United States does not present the subject as an impeachment of good faith on the part of a Power professing the most friendly dispositions, but as involving questions of public law, of which the settlement is essential to the peace of nations. Though pecuniary reparation would have followed on the decision against England, such

compensation was not the primary object of the United States. It was in the interests of peace and justice to establish important principles of international law. The British Minister (said Mr. Johnson) rests his justification on the ground that the municipal law of a nation and the domestic interpretation thereof are measures of its duty as a neutral. That justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not advise any present attempt at redress by legislation. The future friendship of the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice. The United States' Government maintained their traditional policy, leaving European nations to choose their dynasties from their own systems of government. This consistent moderation may justify a demand for a corresponding moderation. The United States would regard it as a great calamity to themselves, to the cause of good government, and to the peace of the world, should any European Power challenge the American people, as it were, to defend Republicanism against foreign interference. The United States cannot foresee, and are unwilling to consider, what opportunities might present themselves, or what combinations might offer to protect them against designs inimical to their form of government. They desire to act in future as they have acted heretofore, and they will never be driven from that course but by foreign aggression, and they rely on the justice and wisdom of foreign Powers to respect the system of non-interference. The correspondence with France in reference to questions which have become subjects of discussion will, at the proper time, be laid before the House.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury favours the repeal of the Legal Tender Act at the earliest practicable moment, but does not urge it as an immediate measure. The paper currency afloat in the United States, including 700,000,000 *dols.*, is likely to be increased. The report favours a decided movement towards the contraction of the currency in order to save the country from wide-spread disaster. It recommends Congress to declare that compound-interest notes shall cease to be a legal-tender after maturity, and asks authority to issue six per cent. bonds at discretion, for the purpose of retiring the compound interest and United States notes. It also recommends legislation for the reduction of the debt by funding obligations at maturity, and providing for raising the revenues necessary to pay the interest, and a certain definite amount annually for the reduction of the principal. The expenditure for the year ending next June will exceed the receipts by 112,000,000 *dols.*, which is to be provided for by loans. The estimated revenue for the year ending June, 1867, will give a surplus of 11,000,000 *dols.* The Secretary of the Treasury is averse from a further issue of certificates of indebtedness and temporary loans, yet for a short period he may be obliged to resort to them to meet current expenses. He urges Congress to declare that the principal and interest of Five-Twenty Bonds for '62 and '64 be paid in coin. He opposes the renewal of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty.

CONGRESS.

Congress assembled on the 6th. In the Senate Mr. Sumner introduced a new test oath for the inhabitants of the rebellious States, and a bill to enforce the constitutional amendment by punishing attempts to control the services of any person, contrary to the amendment. A resolution was also introduced declaratory of the adoption of the constitutional amendment. The resolution adopted by the House for the appointment of a committee to report upon the admission of the Southern representatives had been presented, and laid over. The credentials of the Mississippi senators had also been presented, and laid over.

In the House the Clerk read the roll of members, omitting the Southern representatives. When the call for Tennessee was reached, a member from Tennessee desired to speak. The Clerk refused him, whereupon an animated debate took place, Mr. Brooks protesting against the omission of the members from Tennessee and Virginia, and declaring that if Tennessee was not in the Union the President had no right to his place at the White House. The Clerk ruled that the debate was out of order.

The House elected Mr. Schuyler-Colfax Speaker.

Mr. Thaddeus Stevens offered a resolution appointing a joint committee of both Houses to report whether any of the late rebellious States are entitled to representation in either House, with leave to report at any time by bill or otherwise. No members from such States to be admitted into either House until the report is made and finally acted upon by Congress. All papers relating to the representatives from said States to be referred to the committee without debate. The House refused by a large majority to postpone or table this resolution. It had previously been unanimously adopted at a Republican caucus of 124 members of Congress, held at Washington, when the Radical Republicans took the lead and carried their point.

The House had adopted a resolution discountenancing all suggestions to repudiate the National Debt. A resolution had been introduced asking the President for information concerning Maximilian's decree establishing the slavery of the Peonage in Mexico.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Georgia Legislature had passed the constitutional amendment, and will legislate to protect the freedmen's persons and property, and to allow them to testify in the courts. The Alabama Legislature had adopted the constitutional amendment by an overwhelming vote. The Louisiana Legislature had declared slavery to be forever abolished. The North Carolina Legislature had elected W. Graham, an unpardoned rebel, as Senator for the long term. The Virginia Legislature had assembled at Richmond, and

the Governor has announced the State debt to be 41,000,000 *dols.*, against 22,000,000 *dols.* of assets. He suggested taxation and the sale of the public railways to meet the deficiency.

General Grant visited both Houses of the North Carolina Legislature, when the speaker welcomed him in a congratulatory address.

The Fenian Senate was in session at New York, reviewing the conduct of the Fenian executive and officers. In consequence of the Fenian President being about to issue bonds bearing the signature of the agent of the Irish Republic, whose appointment the Senate had not confirmed, but repudiated, the Senate had issued a manifesto, declaring such bonds to be invalid and illegal. The Senate had called upon the President to send in the name of the Agent of the Irish Republic for confirmation. The President had not yet complied.

It was reported that the Governor of New Brunswick has received information of an intended Fenian raid upon that province.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Advices have been received from Capetown to Nov. 14th. The Basuto war continued, and was likely to last, through the confirmed cowardice of both belligerents. Another engagement took place between them on the 25th of October, resulting in the death of forty Basutos, and the capture of 7,000 oxen and several thousand sheep and horses. After the engagement the Free State and the Transvaal Boers quarrelled about the booty captured. The Transvaalers left the allied camp and returned to their homes on October 30. Eleven of the Cape Corps had deserted from the camp at Drakensberg and had gone to the Free State, taking with them their horses and accoutrements. The Basutos had published a manifesto, charging the Boers with publishing false statements as to their successes, and declaring that the Basuto army had not been in any way imperilled; also charging the Boers with barbarity in killing women and children. Another Basuto raid on British territory was alleged to have been made.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The King and Queen of Portugal are now in Paris. Prince Napoleon has returned to Paris, and had an interview with the Emperor.

News comes from America of the death of Van Amburg, the lion-tamer, who expired suddenly at Philadelphia at the close of last month.

General Garibaldi has recently made a characteristically noble offer, volunteering to go to Naples to tend the cholera patients "if his presence could be useful." The Syndic in answer informed him that the malady had very nearly disappeared, and that his visit would not be of any utility.

Professor Agassiz, who is making a scientific expedition along the Amazon in Brazil, reports most astonishing discoveries. He writes under date of September 8, and says he has found over 100 new species of fish in the Amazon, although he has examined scarcely one-third of that river.—*Philadelphia Letter.*

RETREAT OF THE PARAGUAYANS.—Advices from Montevideo to the 6th of November state that the Paraguayans had evacuated the Argentine provinces of Corrientes; and retreated unmolested into Paraguay, the allied army being at too great a distance to harass their retreating columns, which were also protected by the circumstance of much of the intervening country being under water from heavy rains.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRIAN TREATY.—A private letter from Vienna states that the preliminary treaty was signed on Saturday, the arrangement being for a maximum duty of 25 per cent., *ad valorem*, to be reduced to 20 per cent. in 1870, Austria reserving liberty to make a further liberal reduction when the definitive treaty is completed in March next, if the concession she seeks on corn and wine are yielded by our Government.

THE OUTBREAK IN JAMAICA.

ARRIVAL OF THE WEST INDIA MAIL.

The Atrato arrived at Southampton last Thursday, bringing intelligence from Jamaica to Nov. 24. The court-martial had ceased to sit, but three additional men had been hanged. Against one there seems to have been no evidence, except the possession of a gun which had belonged to Mr. Hire, and the receiver of plunder pleaded in vain that he had been the means of saving a white woman's life. But on account of previous good character three others, against whom similar evidence was tendered, were sentenced to only a hundred lashes. One of them seems to have created a sensation by the novelty of showing suffering and receiving mercy.

Richard Thompson, the young African, after receiving eighty lashes, was ordered to be loosened from the gun by command of Lieutenant Brand, he having fainted under the infliction of his punishment. (This is the first case of the kind which has occurred during the execution of the punishments on the rebels.) He lay for a long time insensible on the ground; but after he had been dashed with some cold water in the face, and given some of it to drink, he revived. Commander Brand having ordered him to get up and come forward, he came up to him. But when the commander told him that there were twenty lashes remaining which he was to get, he entreated him to spare him, which was accordingly done; and the poor fellow, writhing under the pain from the wound inflicted by the lash, crawled away.

Another man, named Miles, a schoolmaster and reporter, was tried for having escaped out of custody

before trial. It does not appear that anything else was charged against him, and the only witnesses were the officers in charge of the prisoners. He was sentenced to fifty lashes, the administration of which is thus chronicled:—

It was Miles's lot to receive his lashes at the hands of a black-hand corporal of Marines, who is acknowledged by everyone to lay them on prodigiously. Every stroke he deals is heard to descend with a heavy "whoof" on the back of the recipient, and a dozen given by his stalwart arm are worth fifty of those from any other of the ship's crew. Miles seemed actually bent in two after he received his flogging.

It must also be kept in mind that the accounts of court-martial work we have hitherto received come only from a single town, that of Morant Bay. But it appears they were in progress also at Bath, six miles to the north, and probably also at Port Antonio. Of the doings at Bath we have only this account, by the Morant Bay special correspondent:—

I heard yesterday afternoon from a gentleman—a resident at Bath—that although the executions had been less there than here, the flogging has far exceeded anything in Morant Bay. He says there must have been from 500 to 600 whipped, and that amongst these a number of them were women, no less than about 200!

Summarising and commenting on the intelligence by this arrival, the *Daily News* says:—

The Jamaica House of Assembly, tolerably "loyal," and which is passing with all desired haste several of the measures recommended by the Governor, has been so far moved by the perusal of the bill for its own abolition as to pass, by a majority of fourteen to seven, a resolution requesting the Governor to lay before it "such information as may enable the House to deal with the question in the manner indicated by his Excellency's speech, and as may not be inconsistent with the interest of the public service." This request can hardly be considered unreasonable, even by Governor Eyre's partisans, since in his speech he had informed the Legislature that "a mighty danger threatens the land," and recommended them, in order to avert it, "to examine boldly, deeply, and unflinchingly into the causes which have led to this danger." Yet the request for the means of making such an examination seems to have taken Governor Eyre quite aback. He issued an immediate reply, and next day another to explain the first. He told the Assembly that "it is manifestly impossible to produce all the information upon which the opinion above quoted was founded." In these circumstances, and oppressed with such voluminous evidence, it might have been expected that the Governor would have at least furnished a few of the sworn informations on which he dealt with so many of her Majesty's subjects as traitors. But he makes no mention of having any sworn informations at all. He speaks of "oral information," of "private letters," of "representations from custodes or magistrates," respecting the seditious or threatening state of their districts, "the whole tending to show that the residents were in a state of apprehension and alarm," of which nobody, we believe, entertains a doubt. If it was Governor Eyre's object to show that a state of panic existed—like that which prevailed in Antigua when he was there, and which would, like this, have led to a dreadful massacre if he could only have procured French troops—then we must admit that he has succeeded. It is important to notice how Governor Eyre deals with a request for evidence, not of opinions, or impressions, or fears, but of facts. Feeling that "oral information" and private letters are a rather scanty basis for his alarming statements, he resorts upon the Assembly and the inhabitants that they themselves are not free to question those statements, because they have already expressed the strongest convictions in harmony with his own. He first adduces the opinion of the magistrates of Kingston, who were so alarmed that they requested him to return and place the district under martial law. This is quite true, but the worth of their opinion to Governor Eyre is much diminished by the fact that he did return, that he met the magistrates of Kingston on October 17, told them that there was "no organisation" of the rebels, that it was a district rising, not extending to Kingston, and that their resolution in favour of the proclamation of martial law was premature. And this is the opinion which, discredited and condemned as it had already been by himself, General Eyre is reduced to quote in his own justification! But it will be remembered that the two Houses of the Colonial Legislature, in their reply to Governor Eyre's opening address, at the commencement of the session, strongly endorsed his strong assertions, and that the fact has been alleged in this country as one which ought to settle the reasonableness of the Governor's estimate of the danger. Well, it certainly is somewhat strange that the Assembly which so eagerly ratified the Governor's alarming verdict upon the state of the colony should now ask him on what evidence it was founded. Nevertheless, as they do ask, let us notice his reply. He says that "the best test of the accuracy of the information on which the Government founded its opinion is to be found in the opinions of the two branches of the Legislature, in their replies to the opening address." That is to say, the Assembly met the Governor on the 7th of November, to learn from him the state of the island; heard that they were all in the most fearful danger; replied that they implicitly believed him; and now, after weeks of reflection, when for their own sakes they are getting a little anxious, and would like some further information, their earlier credulity is flung in their face. "When I said, 'Shocking,' did not you say, 'Perfectly awful?'" "Yes." "Then hold your tongues." Having made this perfectly conclusive reply, the Governor appends "documentary evidence" illustrative of the "state of feeling amongst the black population." We do not find these documents in the newspapers which might be expected to print them. When they appear we shall do justice to them. In the meantime it may be assumed that the feeling of the mass of the population towards the House of Assembly and Governor Eyre was one of the profoundest distrust. Of the prevalence of discontent there can be no doubt. Revolutionary aims and preparations are very different things, and these are what it concerns Governor Eyre to show.

The bill regulating places of religious worship pro-

posed in the Jamaica Legislature was considered a direct violation of the Toleration Act, and subversive of all religious liberty. It met with strong opposition, and was finally withdrawn by the Government. Another bill on the same subject was in course of preparation.

A law had passed the second reading which, says the *Colonial Standard*, contemplates the total gagging of the press, restrictions upon the liberty of speech, and the establishment of arbitrary trial and punishment for sinning against its provision.

Jamaica papers state that great festivities had taken place at Kingston in honour of the visit of the Maroons. As the procession passed through Kingston the entire route, we are told, was lined on both sides by thousands of persons who turned out on the occasion. Every balcony from which a view could be commanded was crowded, and even on the tops of houses there were hundreds of persons waving handkerchiefs and shouting at the top of their bent "to welcome the loyal people of whom so much had been said." Repeated cheers were also sent up for the volunteers as each company passed.

"The Maroons," says the *Kingston Morning Journal* of the 15th, "were attired in simple blue shirts and breeches, but each one was enveloped in leaves—the mode in which they carry on warfare. They carried rifles, and kept up a wild dance to a peculiarly discordant music, which they produced by blowing horns and shells, aided by the low humming of those who had no instruments of music." At the Court-house they were addressed by the Governor.

Previous to the grand entertainment given to the Maroons at Kingston, their chief, Colonel Eyre, issued an address to those of the tribe located at Moretown, Charleston, Accompong, and Scots' Hall, in which, after referring to the Indian mutiny, he boasts of the way in which the mutineers were "blown away from the mouths of cannon," and "slaughtered like sheep," and adds that "some of the heroes who performed these brilliant deeds are now in Jamaica, ready, with our gallant comrades of the West Indies and our noble sailors, to re-enact them again if necessary." He afterwards exclaims:—"Henceforth, Maroons, I consider myself one of your number!"

Brigadier Nelson, the acting provost-marshal at Jamaica during the riots there, arrived in England by this mail. He is said to have "expressed his surprise" at the feeling in this country against the Government proceedings in that island. The brigadier is on leave, and has come to England solely on private business, but is expected to leave again without delay, in connection with the inquiry to be prosecuted by Sir Henry Storks.

PUBLIC MEETINGS, &c.

At a meeting consisting of gentlemen belonging to the Independent, Baptist, Wesleyan, Moravian, and Presbyterian denominations of the metropolis, held at Freemasons Hall on Friday last, the Rev. Dr. Raleigh in the chair, it was resolved—"That this meeting has heard with surprise and indignation that a bill has been laid before the Legislature of Jamaica, by the Government of the island, for the regulation of religious worship—a bill which would destroy the liberty of worship and teaching hitherto enjoyed by the people of that island. That, notwithstanding the withdrawal of the bill by the Government, there is reason to believe that another of somewhat similar tenor will be brought forward. This meeting, therefore, begs respectfully to request of her Majesty's Government that they will, in this and every such case, instruct her Majesty's representative, the Governor of Jamaica, to refuse his sanction to any interference with the religious privileges of the people, and that her Majesty's Government will continue impartially to secure to every class of her Majesty's subjects in that island equal religious and educational privileges."

Public meetings were held last week in Ipswich, Leicester, Halifax, Bristol, and other towns, at which satisfaction was expressed that the Government had already appointed a commission to proceed to the island, and the temporary superseding of Governor Eyre was accepted as an earnest that the inquiry would be full and impartial. The Leicester meeting was one of the largest ever held in that town, Mr. Taylor, M.P., and the Revs. J. P. Mursell and J. A. Picton, were among the speakers. At Bristol the Rev. W. M. Punshon was one of the speakers, and said, he wished to disavow the impression that this was altogether a Nonconformist movement.

He rejoiced when a clergyman so well known as Canon McNeill and lay members of the Church of England, like the respected gentleman who had moved the resolution, came forward to ask for an inquiry, which, whatever its issue, involved some of the dearest interests of humanity. Two very plausible objections had been taken to the holding of the meeting. First, that the meeting was an anachronism, that it was altogether out of date, and all that the meeting could lawfully demand had been granted by the Government already. That was true, and he, for one, was perfectly satisfied with the action of the Government in the matter, and was perfectly content to wait for the result, and yet there were important ends which those meetings might answer. The second objection which had been raised was that they were prejudging the case. But the newspapers had set the example in this respect. Was it any wonder that those who thought they knew better should be prompted to reply? It was rather hard that they should be expected to smother their indignation, and he did not like that kind of Irish reciprocity which was all on one side. He disavowed all fellowship either in thought or purpose with these miserable men who had so far forgotten their manhood as to write cowardly letters to a lady. All of them who had any manly or patriotic feeling were desirous of finding out what the wrong was, and therefore they were anxious, not for

the trial of Governor Eyre, not for the trial of the Baptist missionaries, but for a thorough investigation of the whole matter.

The Rev. Mr. Hayercroft, M.A., the Rev. D. Thomas, chairman of the Congregational Union, and Mr. Handel Cossbam also addressed the meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Friday's *Gazette* contains the announcement that Sir Henry Storks is to have the local rank of Lieutenant-General while in command of the forces in Jamaica. General O'Connor is therefore superseded as well as Governor Eyre.

Sir Henry Storks left London for Jamaica on Monday, and is accompanied by Mr. Charles Savile Roundell, a member of the Bar, as his secretary. Sir Henry Storks will (says the *Globe*) be the Governor, the Commander of the Forces, and the President of the Commission. The other members of the Commission have not yet been selected, but they will speedily follow the President. In thus making Sir Henry Storks the Queen's representative in the island, the Government has not the slightest intention of prejudging Governor Eyre. He is invested with supreme power simply because it is necessary for the efficient conduct of the inquiry that the commission should be above local control.

A committee has been formed to watch the progress of the official inquiry about to be instituted by the Government into recent events in Jamaica; to bring about a searching Parliamentary inquiry into the past and present condition of Jamaica; and to provide Mrs. Gordon and others who may have unjustly suffered from the proceedings of the civil and military authorities in Jamaica with competent legal assistance to conduct their several cases before the commission. The chairman of the committee is Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., and among the members are Mr. J. Stuart Mill, M.P., Lord Alfred Churchill, Mr. Bright, M.P., Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Professors Cairnes and Goldwin Smith, &c. The secretary of the committee is Mr. F. W. Chesson, 56, Fleet-street, to whom subscriptions should be sent.

A West India paper states that the united ages of the three officers who tried the Hon. Mr. Gordon in Jamaica, and condemned him to death, did not amount to more than seventy years.

The Government have chartered the West India and Pacific Company's steamship *Californian*, for the conveyance of troops to Jamaica. The *Californian* will sail from Liverpool with about 200 men, on the 28th inst.

The first direct notice of the doings in the island of Jamaica reached England on the 14th of November. It is probable that no intimation of the decided disapproval of Governor Eyre's proceedings by the English Government was sent by the West India mail of the 17th of November, which would reach Jamaica about the 7th inst. The mail sent from England on the 2nd inst. will reach Jamaica about the 23rd inst. Nearly seven weeks will have elapsed since the date of the last news (the 24th ult.) before Sir Henry Storks can arrive on the island.

SIR ROBERT CLIFTON'S ACTION AGAINST THE PATRIOT.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—DEC. 16.
CLIFTON v. HOWAT.

This was an action for libel arising out of the late election for Nottingham. The defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., Mr. Wills, and Mr. Cox appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., and Mr. Meadows White, for the defendant.

When the case was called on,

The Lord Chief Baron threw out a suggestion that, as no justification was pleaded, the case was one in which an arrangement might be come to between the parties.

Mr. Digby Seymour said his client, Sir Robert Clifton, had placed the matter entirely in his hands, and he was prepared to accept a complete apology and retraction.

Mr. Hawkins said he was instructed to withdraw any imputation which Sir Robert Clifton might suppose the article complained of made upon his private character.

Mr. Seymour observed, that would not be sufficient, as there were serious charges made against the public character of Sir Robert Clifton, from which he desired to vindicate himself.

The Lord Chief Baron said the libel contained imputations on Sir Robert Clifton's public conduct at the election, which, if true, would be exceedingly derogatory to him.

Mr. Hawkins, on behalf of the defendant, positively declined to withdraw those imputations, and the case proceeded.

Mr. Seymour, in opening the case, said that previous to 1861 Sir Robert Clifton, the plaintiff, was residing with Lady Clifton on the continent, with the object of retrenchment in his expenditure and paying off the encumbrances on his estates, but in that year he came back to reside at his ancestral house near Nottingham, and signified his intention of becoming at the earliest opportunity a candidate for the representation of that borough. In the same year, when Mr. Mellor, who had represented the borough, was elevated to the Bench, Sir Robert Clifton offered himself for the vacant seat. He had opposed to him Lord Lincoln, now the Duke of Newcastle, both being members of families long connected with the historical associations and incidents of the county. A battle was fought, and ended in Sir Robert being returned by a majority of 1,800 votes. From that time until the general elec-

tion in July last he attended to his Parliamentary duties, occasionally seeking repose at his old ancestral seat, where he and Lady Clifton dispensed a generous and unostentatious hospitality. At that election he again offered himself to the electors, the other candidates being Mr. Paget and Mr. Morley, who stood in the same interest, and Mr. Martin, who represented the politics of another party. It was a very exciting contest, giving rise not only to strong expressions of party feeling, but also to serious riots and disturbances. The election ended in the return of Mr. Morley and Sir Robert Clifton. On Thursday, the 13th of July, the day after the declaration of the poll, there appeared in the columns of the *Patriot*, a London newspaper, of which the defendant is the publisher, an article seriously reflecting on the conduct of Sir R. Clifton. This journal described itself as a family newspaper, and was the organ of the Congregational or denominational section of Dissenters, among whom there were in Nottingham a large number of Sir Robert's supporters. The following were the terms of the alleged libel:—

As we assured our readers last week, Mr. Morley has ended his contest victoriously. He stands at the head of the poll. But for the unpopularity which Sir Robert Clifton's agents excited against Mr. Paget, Mr. Morley's colleague, and in which he shared, his return would have been carried by an overwhelming majority. The popular cries against Mr. Paget have been outrageously false, but the exasperated passions of the populace ridiculed any attempt to allay or enlighten their madness. We regret that this honourable man has been compelled to endure these calumnies, and now, at length, to endure defeat at the hands of a desperado and lawless rowdy like Sir R. Clifton. The town of Nottingham bears no enviable fame so long as this baronet is its representative. And Mr. Morley, despite the pleasure of his success, must feel a deep loathing at the unnatural alliance into which his name is now thrust, for the alliance can go no further than the juxtaposition of names.

After referring to the gutting by the mob of Messrs. Morley and Paget's committee-rooms, the writer proceeded:—

It is likewise reported that some irregularities of a hateful kind, such as the impersonation of absent and dead voters, have swelled Sir Robert Clifton's majority, and the rapid rise of his numbers during the last hour indicates a pressure which was not derived solely from moral influence. A keen scrutiny will be made, and these awkward doubts solved. There is, at least, ground to hope that, notwithstanding the bullying and coward insolence of Sir Robert Clifton, his cause will be lost, sunk amid infamies practised on the day of the election, baser if not more violent than those practised before it. The article concluded thus:—

We are grateful to Nottingham for returning Mr. Morley to Parliament, and are aggrieved that the good men who have thus honoured themselves in honouring Mr. Morley should be scandalised by his conjunction with Sir Robert Clifton. Another day may detect imposture in this ephemeral return, and show Clifton's majority to be a sham. If not, another election must wipe away this aristocratic miscreant, and replace with Mr. Morley his worthy colleague, Mr. Paget.

The learned counsel said that in another part of the same paper there was a report of the riotous proceedings at the election, in which it was said that, so far from encouraging the rioters, Sir R. Clifton waited upon the Mayor, and claimed assistance for the protection of his voters, who were prevented by his opponents from going to the poll. In conclusion, Mr. Seymour commented on the serious character of the libel, and said that Sir Robert felt that, in the absence of a complete apology, he could only justify himself by coming into court.

The following evidence was then given:—

Sir Robert Clifton, the plaintiff, called, said: I am the owner of Clifton Hall and Wilford Manor, near Nottingham. In 1861 I was returned for Nottingham at the head of the poll, my opponent being the present Duke of Newcastle. I contested Nottingham at the late election in July. Mr. Paget joined Mr. Morley as a candidate in the field. There was a Conservative candidate. I received considerable support from Conservatives. The declaration of the poll was on the 12th July. The next day there appeared the article in the *Patriot*, which was the general topic of conversation in Nottingham. (This was all the evidence the plaintiff was called upon to give.)

Cross-examined: The committee room of Messrs. Morley and Paget was gutted. In the opposition paper (the *Nottingham Express*) I was charged with being the instigator of the attack on that occasion. I was also charged in the same paper with being the instigator of some previous riots. It represented a small clique in the town who persistently attacked me. At a meeting at the Walnut Tree Inn I did not say all the oppositions to me was owing to my being too honest for my colleague, Mr. Paget. I did not charge "No. 30"—"the nominees" (the magistrates)—with having, armed with stones, &c., held a hole-and-corner meeting at the Exchange. I may have said at a meeting, "Shame on the mayor, shame on the magistrates; damnation to them." I afterwards altered the word damnation to condemnation. (Laughter.) When I said damnation to them I don't think there were three cheers. The meeting consisted of electors and non-electors. I do not recollect seeing the placard produced with the words, "Sir Robert Clifton's dying blessing. Shame on the mayor, shame on the magistrates; damnation to them."

The Lord Chief Baron: Probably if he had seen it he would have said to himself, "Some enemy has done this." (Laughter.)

Cross-examination resumed: I have not brought an action against the *Nottingham Express*, though it repeatedly made charges against me. There were all sorts of slanderous and libellous attacks upon me in the *Express*, but everyone in Nottingham knows what that paper is, and they did not injure me. This paper might have charged me with being the instigator of the attacks by the mob. I do not know Walter Fry. (Fry was here called upon to stand up.) I did not see him on the day of election, when I was standing on the steps of the

Mechanics' Hall. I did not then say to the mob, "If they went and pulled the house down it would serve them, his opponents, right," meaning the house where Morley and Paget's committee-room was. I might have said that they deserved to be treated as they were being treated. The mob did not immediately afterwards attack the house. I did not speak in a loud tone of voice, but only to some one who was standing by at the time.

The Lord Chief Baron wished to know what was the object of the cross-examination.

Mr. Hawkins said he proposed to prove these and other facts at the election, in order to show that there was no malice on the part of the defendant; and secondly, if not to establish a plea of justification, which did not appear on the record, to show that these were all acts of public concern, on which the public press had a right to comment.

The Lord Chief Baron: Then you ought to have pleaded the statute, and claimed the privilege given under it.

Mr. Hawkins: I submit that this evidence may be tendered under the plea of not guilty.

The Lord Chief Baron: I think not.

Mr. Hawkins: I also propose to put in similar articles and comments, which were publicly circulated in Nottingham before the libel complained of appeared.

The Lord Chief Baron: I most certainly object to such evidence being given.

Cross-examination continued: I might have said they (his opponents) deserved it, but not publicly. I did not see a man with a pickaxe, but I saw men with sticks and other pieces of wood. I did not see William Hooton then. [Hooton stood up.] I did not say, "Go it, lads," and did not hear Hooton say, "Shame on you, Sir Robert." I cannot say whether the stones were taken out of the walls of the house. The furniture was taken out, but I did not see any carried about with my colours upon it. The taking out the windows and the carrying away the furniture was the treatment which I said they might have deserved. I was as cool as most persons could be under the circumstances. When I said "damnation," I was not excited. I used that word, from failing at the moment to find a proper one, but I substituted another afterwards. I did not say on the hustings on the nomination day, "I'll clear this—platform." I said to some partisans on the other side, "Pray be gentlemen, and give the speaker a hearing as you wish us to hear you." One man took out a knife and swore to rip me up. I don't know his name. I was told he was an inspector of the markets. I did not say, speaking of Byrom Ward polling-booth, that "I would have the—place down." I may have said of Jemmy Sweet, who at the former election was one of my supporters, "I never knew a gentleman who deserted to the foe who was not branded as a villain and crushed like a snake." I do not recollect a lady in the crowd exclaiming, after that speech, "Amen"; nor did I reply, "Jemmy must take the sweets with the sour." I believe Jemmy Sweet's shop was attacked, but I don't know whether it was after then or not. I did not make him the subject of my speeches more than he did me the subject of his. (Laughter.) He used language to me which I should have been sorry to have used against him, and next night I replied to his attacks.

The Lord Chief Baron—I don't think we ought to have all the humours of the election brought out.

Cross-examination resumed—I did not say that Jemmy Sweet deserved what he got on the day of the election when his shop was gutted, but I said he had brought it all on himself. I did not drive in front of his house when the attack was going on, but I passed along a contiguous street. People did not follow me carrying parts of Jemmy Sweet's broken furniture. I was always followed by a crowd. The mob had small sticks, but whether they were taken from his furniture I cannot say. I know nothing about his furniture. On another occasion I did not say when the mob was gutting a house, "Go it, lads," and a gentleman did not exclaim, "For shame, Sir Robert." I did not on the hustings, on the nomination day, put myself in a fighting attitude to any one, nor on any other occasion during the election. I did not require the *Patriot* to make an apology upon my own terms, but I placed the libel in the hands of my solicitor to take what steps he deemed necessary.

Re-examined—I left my solicitor and my private friends to advise me upon the matter. No such charges as those contained in the *Nottingham Express* were made in any other newspaper I know of. That was a paper committed to my opponents, and noted for its strong language. During the whole contest I did nothing to encourage the mob to break the peace or to injure property.

This was the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Hawkins said it was his intention to give evidence to show what was the conduct of Sir R. Clifton during the election, and in the next place evidence of newspapers containing similar imputations to those in the *Patriot* against Sir R. Clifton, with the view of proving that his proceedings were the subject of public comment.

The Lord Chief Baron held that the evidence was not admissible.

Mr. Hawkins then addressed the jury for the defendant. He disclaimed any intention on the part of the editor of the *Patriot* to attack the personal and private character of Sir Robert Clifton, but contended that when charges against Sir Robert were being continually made in the Nottingham newspapers as to his conduct at the election without his taking any notice of them or calling the authors to account, the conductor of a public journal was justified in commenting upon his proceedings, which formed a topic of general discussion not only in Nottingham but elsewhere. It was impossible for the *Patriot* to apologise for repeating charges which had been made over and over again in the public papers in Nottingham, and remained unrefuted. Instead of proceeding against the *Patriot*, Sir Robert ought to have selected for attack one of the Nottingham newspapers, and vindicated his character in the locality where he was best known, and where, according to his counsel, he dispensed a gene-

rous and unostentatious hospitality in his old ancestral halls. The learned counsel submitted that under the circumstances a small amount of damages would meet the justice of the case.

The Lord Chief Baron, in summing up, said the first question the jury had to determine was whether the article was a libellous publication, and if they thought it was, they would next have to say to what amount of damages the plaintiff was entitled. Both questions were purely ones for a jury. He owned that at the outset he expected there would have been such an apology as a gentleman could have accepted, but the apology offered fell short of that, being merely a declaration that the defendant did not mean to attack the plaintiff's private character. Mere abuse was beneath the notice of a public man, whether a statesman, a judge, or an advocate; it was not a sufficient reason for a man of character and fair fame to bring an action upon; but when particular imputations of both a public and private nature were made, it was for every gentleman to judge for himself how far he could allow his character to be so assailed without publicly presenting himself before a jury. He made no such distinction as that suggested by Mr. Hawkins between a man's public and private character. If a man were accused publicly in the county where he lived with compelling his tenants to vote in a particular way, that might be called an imputation on his public character, but it was so mixed up with his private character, that, if untrue, he might fairly make it the foundation of an action. If he had so misconducted himself as to give truth to the libel, then he might very properly hold his tongue. It was a great mistake to confound public with private character. He remembered a passage in a play which he saw a great many years ago, which was perfectly true—

"That people's mad and past all hope of cure
That looks in private vice for public virtue."

The reverse of that proposition was also in a great measure true. Public delinquency was not wiped out, nor justice satisfied, by saying that the man was in private life perfectly correct. To impute to a statesman, for instance, that he had committed a grave error, was not actionable; but to say that the owner of an estate in a county coerced his tenants, and compelled them to vote against their consciences, was about as bad an imputation as could be made upon any man. There were persons who carried on occupations which did not strictly violate the law, but which were as mischievous as if they carried on the business of a highwayman. The view which the jury took of a case on the previous evening—he did not say whether they were right or wrong—was founded upon such an impression. There was a principle in the law of England, that fraud of every kind cut down all contracts and all rights. The first thing to be done was to put down fraud. There was a law quite independent of the common law or the statute law—there were rules of conduct which every man was bound to observe, and if a man sinned against them, though he did not break the law so as to be the subject of punishment, he broke the law in the eyes of those who considered that the general interests of society were mixed up with the virtuous conduct of every member of that society. He violated the social law as much as if he picked a pocket or forged a bill of exchange. After some further remarks, his lordship left the jury to consider their verdict.

The jury retired to their room, and, after an absence of about ten minutes, came into court with a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, 50*l*.

MR. BRIGHT AT BIRMINGHAM.

A great meeting in favour of Parliamentary Reform was held at the Town-hall, Birmingham, the Mayor in the chair. Mr. Bright was present, but Mr. Scholefield, the other representative of the borough, was kept away by ill health. After the opening of the proceedings,

Mr. Alderman LLOYD moved, seconded by Mr. RADFORD—

That in the opinion of this meeting the state of the country is peculiarly favourable for immediate legislation on the subject of Parliamentary Reform, and that the repeatedly expressed opinion and the recorded pledges of the more prominent members of the present Government render it especially incumbent upon the existing Ministry to prepare at once a comprehensive measure of Reform, calculated to satisfy the just expectations of all sections of the Liberal party.

Mr. BRIGHT, who was most enthusiastically received, commenced by referring to the altered political condition of the country owing to the late general election, the death of Lord Palmerston, and the formation of a Cabinet by Earl Russell, who was somewhat old, but old in the services rendered to the country and in his attachment to freedom. The political prospects of the country were brighter and better than they had been for some time past, though their old friends the Tories did not seem to be in a very cheerful mood, especially Sir John Pakington, who wanted to establish "a great constitutional party." Sir John thinks that the Government will not be able to carry a Reform Bill, because it will be opposed by such men as Lord Eloho, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Horsman. But to carry out his idea of a new coalition, Sir John would have to get rid of Mr. Newdegate on the one hand, and his leader, Mr. Disraeli, on the other. The right hon. gentleman said that while the Whigs and Tories were quarrelling, the Republicans were advancing. He (Mr. Bright) did not know who the latter were, but presumed that he intended to refer to the advanced Liberals. Mr. Adderley had also said that he (Mr. Bright) wished to substitute a President for the Queen of this realm. He thought such statements were not wise and some-

what immoral. History showed what had brought about Republicanism. It was the oppression and corruption of sovereigns. It was the party who opposed every reasonable reform that gave birth to Republicanism.

Look now at the great changes which have taken place since that stirring event—changes all of which with scarcely any considerable exception have been in favour of freedom, and in favour of the right and true interests of the great masses of our population. But, leaving out of view the question of the effect upon the people, what has been the effect of these changes upon the position of the Throne? Does any man deny that the Queen of England is more securely upon the throne of England than any monarch who has sat upon that throne during any preceding period of English history? (Cheers.) There is no man in this island certainly who wishes to wrest the sceptre from her hand. The realm has been for years more tranquil, and for a longer time, than at any previous period of our recorded history. And the cause of it is this, that the people feel that the Throne is no danger, no enemy of freedom, nor is its influence lent to that faction of which Sir John Pakington is the latest spokesman. (Cheers.) But now, why is that these gentlemen either feel or pretend so much alarm? "Russell and Reform" is a vision of thirty years ago. But, after all, if these men had a little more courage, and would examine the question a little more, they would find that their fears were foolish and childish. The bill of 1860, I suppose, will be the foundation, and probably somewhere very near the bill which will come into Parliament next month. When it was brought into the House in 1860 it passed a second reading without a division. The Tories did not object. They could not, dared not, object to its principle, and I believe it wanted very little to have induced them to allow the bill to pass the House of Commons even without a division. They themselves brought in a bill in 1859. It was not a very honest bill. It was too clever by half. (Laughter.) It proposed a 10% qualification for counties, and as a balance to shut out all freeholders in boroughs from voting in counties, the object being to continue the county representation strictly in the hands of the landed proprietors. It did not presume to reduce the rental franchise in boroughs, but it proposed several modes of allowing in a few people who happened not to be in, but who, for the most part, are not really of those whom it seems a pity to exclude in bulk, namely, the working classes. But even in regard to that, two very respectable members of that Cabinet, Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley, differed from their colleagues. They were in favour of reducing the borough franchise from 10% to 8%, and, differing from their colleagues, they resigned, and left the Government. There does not seem to be such a frightful chasm between certain main propositions of that bill and that of the succeeding year that a man was to be frightened out of his senses if he was asked to leap over it. Assuming that the Government will bring in a bill—I am not authorised to say anything about it, for really I know nothing about it—but assuming that the Government will bring in a bill which will give the franchise to 10% occupiers in counties and in boroughs, either to all persons rated to the relief of the poor, or to all householders—either of which would be much better than the proposition to give the franchise to the occupiers of 6% houses—which ever of these propositions they offer to Parliament and the country—I should like to know on what authority Sir John Pakington dares to assume that those who are in favour of this measure of emancipation are Republicans, and hostile to the constitution and monarchy of this country. (Cheers.) Lord Aberdeen was a Minister of the greatest probity, of great wisdom and moderation. He approved of a measure almost precisely the same with regard to the borough franchise. But was Lord Aberdeen a Revolutionist or a Republican? Was Mr. Sydney Herbert a Republican? Was the late Duke of Newcastle a Republican? Was the long-experienced Sir James Graham a Republican? Was one of the most learned statesmen of our time, the late Sir G. C. Lewis, a Republican? Is Mr. Gladstone deserving of that name, or Lord Russell himself, politically representing one of the wealthiest and most powerful and most honourable aristocratic families of England—is he one of the party upon whom a ban is to be laid by styling them Republicans, and therefore Revolutionists? (Cheers.) But we may go further. What of the Queen herself? In 1860 the Queen gave her hearty assent to the measure, and I do not suppose that the Queen does not know what she is doing. The Queen has never been merely a mechanical sovereign, putting her hand and signature to public documents without understanding them. She has a great responsibility upon her. She studies these questions, and she comprehends them. She gave her support to the bill which was about to be brought in. (Cheers.) And not only in 1860 did the Queen, but the Prince Consort. He who was then at her side—a wise and loving counsellor—gave his support to that measure. All the persons I have mentioned knew, and all those who are now living know, thoroughly well, that the Throne is only safe—not when it is based on the privileges or the monopoly of a faction, but on the affection of a trusted and well-governed people. (Cheers.)

He should like to know from this great constitutional party whether the demand for the five million unfranchised people to be represented in the Commons was a reasonable request to be granted, or a dangerous concession to be resisted to the utmost. Would this change alter the character of the monarchy, or the constitution of the House of Peers? After referring to what had taken place during the Commonwealth and in the time of William III., Mr. Bright quoted the recorded opinion of Lord Somers to this effect:—"The Lords conceive that giving a vote for a representative in Parliament is the essential privilege whereby every Englishman preserves his property, and that whatsoever deprives him of such vote deprives him of his birthright." (Cheers.) He wondered how such obstructives as Sir John Pakington propounded any opinions at all. These very statesmen, after having howled and shouted, "Danger to the Crown," "Danger to the Constitution," "Danger to the Church," danger to everything, ever since they were little children, even now at this very moment, when everything they had cried was falsified by the event, were just as ready to shout "Danger" as they ever

were before. One of them said the working men would not know what to do with a vote, but the working man might reply, "What have you done with it?" He thought if the people had the franchise, many great evils would be remedied. Within five years there would be established in this country a system of education as universal as that which produces such admirable results amongst our cousins across the Atlantic. (Cheers.) Turn to Ireland, a country in which for years past there has been continual insurrections, or attempts at rebellion?

In that country the principles of the great constitutional party that resists all dangerous concessions had been carried out to their fullest extent. With regard to the land, there have been 200 Acts of Parliament passed in favour of the landlord and not one in favour of the tenant. (Cheers.) Look at their Church. I am always sorry to have to say things which appear injurious to the character of the Church. The Church religious is one thing, the Church Political is another. (Cheers.) Don't let any labouring earnest Protestant clergyman in Ireland think I am undervaluing any services he may render to religion. I speak of the Church as a political institution set down in that country not by the opinion of the people, but by the power of the Tory people in England. I say that so long as that Church exists there never will be, there never can be in the nature of the human mind, there never ought to be, content and tranquillity in Ireland. (Hear, hear.)

Would this great constitutional party maintain the Irish Church as it was? These gentlemen feared a transfer of power, but he held that as the people grow in wisdom, independence, and intelligence, there must be a gradual transfer of power. The Crown had lost the power it once had; but he did not think any one proposed to diminish its power further. The Peers had likewise lost some of the power they once had, but were they any worse? The people had more than they had before, and there was little doubt that the people are all the better for the change.

If of the five millions who are now shut out one million were admitted—you will mark the extreme, or, as some will say, the blameable, moderation of that suggestion—but if only one million were admitted, would not the cry of the toil-laden and the suffering which even now ascends to heaven reach further and be heard even on the floor of Parliament? For do not forget that the ear of the Supreme is nearer even to the lowliest of us than is that of our rulers. But if that voice were heard in Parliament would it not perchance do something to still the roar of faction and to bind the powers of statesmanship to the high and the holy purposes of humanity and of justice? I speak not the language of party. I feel myself above the level of party. (Loud cheers.) I speak, as I have ever endeavoured to speak, on behalf of the unfranchised; the almost voiceless millions of my countrymen. Their claim is just, and it is constitutional. It will be heard. It cannot be rejected. To the outward eye monarchs and Parliaments seem to rule with an absolute and unquestionable way; but—and I quote the words which one of our old Puritan poets has left for us—

There is on earth a yet angustier thing,
Vexed though it be, than Parliament or King.

That angustier thing is the tribunal which God has set up in the consciences of men. It is before that tribunal that I am now permitted humbly to plead, and there is something in my heart—a small but an excellent voice—which tells me that I shall not plead in vain. (Mr. Bright resumed his seat amid great cheering, having spoken for nearly an hour and a half.)

In responding to a vote of thanks to Mr. Scholefield and himself, and in allusion to an observation that Mr. Bright had not been invited to take an office of dignity and emolument,

Mr. BRIGHT said he had not been ambitious of office. If office had been the chief ambition of his political life, he thought that probably, long before the present time, he should have been in some office of dignity and emolument. His present office was not one of emolument; but it was one of great dignity. There were some men that came to dignities through their dead ancestors; he came to his dignity by the favour of his constituents, of whom he hoped he was the honest and, in some degree, useful servant. (Cheers.) He had not been ambitious for office, but it might become his duty to accept office under certain circumstances. If that should be so, and it was a bold figure of speech to speak of it at all, let them depend upon it that it would only be when he was thoroughly convinced that it was consistent with the position he held as their representative in Parliament, and the advocate in some sort, humble and inefficient as it might be, of the great mass of his fellow countrymen. (Cheers.)

FATAL COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—ACCIDENT TO THE MAIL STEAMER SAMPHIRE.—A very alarming accident occurred on Wednesday night to the mail steamer Samphire, while on her voyage from Dover to Calais. When about four miles from Dover the vessel came into collision with the Fanny Buck, a large American ship, bound from Rotterdam to Cardiff, and a terrible scene ensued. The steamer being supposed to be sinking, the passengers became very excited, and a Russian count, in endeavouring to jump into a boat, was drowned. The fore cabins of the vessel filled with water, and five passengers, M. Laiguellet, M. De Croig, a foreigner, name unknown, Miss Baines, of Yalding, Kent, and Miss Kening, a friend of Miss Baines, were drowned. Happily, by the peculiar construction of the steamer, the fore part can be isolated from the compartments aft, otherwise the steamer would have sunk directly. As it was, however, the vessel was kept afloat and was towed back to Dover. The ship also put into Dover, much damaged. Prince Christian of Augustenberg, the intended husband of the Princess Helena, was one of the passengers in the Samphire.

THE JAMAICA QUESTION.

TO THE FRIENDS OF CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

DEAR SIRS,—I do not wonder that you take a deep interest in the movements recently made in Jamaica. My son has lately returned from that colony, where at my earnest request he went about two years ago to promote the objects which are dear to our hearts. He has just returned to his native land, and has reported as follows:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE JAMAICA COTTON COMPANY (LIMITED).

London, 2nd December, 1865.

Gentlemen,—My last report (bearing date 8th October) informed you of the changes in management made, or about to be made, in order to reduce still further our general expenses. As manager of Murrion and Orange-hill, I had only had time to make contracts with labourers for the cleaning up of the fields, and other necessary work, when a stop was put to everything by the breaking out of a serious riot. On Wednesday, 11th October, I was told that a disturbance was anticipated at the vestry-meeting at Morant Bay on that afternoon, that the Custos had sent to Spanish Town for troops, and called out the volunteers, but I did not share the general fears. The day passed quietly in our district. On Thursday afternoon, 12th October, news reached me that the volunteers had been out to pieces, the Custos and several other gentlemen cruelly murdered, and the court and school-house at Morant Bay burnt to the ground. I mounted immediately, and rode in succession to the senior magistrate, and the ministers of the Wesleyan, Episcopalian, and Baptist congregations. My object in visiting the magistrate was to offer my services in any way to secure continued quiet at Manchioneal, and, failing any suggestion from him, to propose the immediate holding of a meeting, at which he might swear in as many special constables as possible. He considered that we were safe, and the time for action not yet come. I then went to the ministers of religion, begging them to convene meetings of their people, and represent the sin and folly of taking any part with the rioters. I regret that they did not feel it their duty to co-operate with me to any great extent. Mr. Jones, clergyman, was unable to do anything. Mr. Foote, Wesleyan, summoned a meeting, but did not attend it. Mr. Harris, Baptist, promised to allude to the matter at his next morning's prayer-meeting. Though anxious myself to prevent evil, I did not think the disturbance would spread to Manchioneal. On Friday morning it was rumoured that the rioters were in our neighbourhood, having passed through Plantain Garden River district, bent on destruction of life and property. Leaving Murrion in charge of a servant, I went to Betty's Hope, where my family were residing. In the afternoon of Friday the noise convinced us that a riot had actually commenced in Manchioneal. The watchword constantly repeated in deafening shouts by the negroes was, "Colour for colour." In the evening we saw the conflagration caused by a house being fired, and heard successively the efforts of the rioters to beat down the police-station and other houses. I am sorry to say I fear that too many of the Manchioneal people were in some way engaged in the riot. The Betty's Hope people were faithful throughout. Having done their work at Manchioneal, the mob passed us by and proceeded to the houses of Messrs. Foote and Hinchelwood (magistrate), destroying what they could at the one and setting fire to the other. Mr. Foote's personal property was mostly preserved by the surrounding negroes, who concealed it before the arrival of the rioters. On Saturday morning several anonymous messages reached me to the effect that I and my family were safe, but that the house would probably be searched to see that no obnoxious persons were concealed in it. About ten a.m. we heard the work of destruction going on upon the next Estate-Ranch. I advised the neighbours who had come to me for protection to leave my house under escort of several faithful negroes, and return when the danger was over. Our fears once again proved groundless, and in answer to prayer, we were passed by and mercifully preserved. About midday I rode through Manchioneal town to Murrion. Everything was quiet, and there was nothing to remind one of the previous day's transactions save rifled shops and broken windows, and the ruins of the one house which was totally destroyed. Everything at Murrion (to my great surprise) was as I left it, and I learnt from the man in charge that there was a discussion at the bottom of the hill as to whether the property should be injured; that the pleading of the Manchioneal people prevailed, and saved everything, on the ground that "Mr. Bourne was a father to the people, visiting them in sickness." It was also told me that the store-premises previously sold to Mr. Harrison, and one of the bedsteads in the house, were preserved under the impression that they still belonged to me. It is with gratitude to them and the Great Ruler who so disposed the people that I report that your property at Murrion, Orange Hill, and Betty's Hope, was in no way injured by the rioters. I regret to be unable to say the same of Elmwood. On Saturday the house was broken into, the furniture either taken away or wantonly destroyed, and the whole of Mr. Wigham's personalities (not yet removed), and Mr. Warrington's (just sent in) were stolen or chopped to pieces. Mr. Warrington himself was wounded at Morant Bay, where he was on the Wednesday in his capacity of vestryman. His wife and child were safe with me. Mr. and Mrs. Wigham and their child escaped to Port Antonio. Messrs. Dobell and Smith are also safe, though the former lost his tools and pigs, and had to hide in the bush on Friday night, and take refuge at Betty's Hope on Saturday. On Sunday I returned to Murrion, and had service in the Great House. After the use of the Liturgy I preached to the people from Luke xiii. 27—31, insisting especially upon the certainty that might would sooner or later be on the side of order and justice and government, and exhorting those who had plundered property to make immediate restitution, and all to keep clear of any further riotous proceedings. The attendance was not numerous, but my remarks were well received. On Monday morning the troops arrived eager in the work of shooting and burning right and left, and at the desire of the Governor, and escorted by Mr. Warrington, proceeded to establish themselves at Murrion. This being head-quarters, all the whites of the neighbourhood were collected as soon as possible, a

room was set apart for the use of women and children, and Captain Hole, to whose gentlemanly bearing and moderation I must be allowed to bear testimony, commenced his inquiry. No resistance was offered to the military by the rioters. Suspected persons were brought in for trial; houses where stolen property was found were burnt; and those convicted of participation in the evil doings being shot or flogged.

It would be premature to express any opinion as to the causes and extent of this sad disturbance. That our Home Government, with such a man as Earl Russell at its head, will fail to inquire into the causes, I cannot believe, and many things may be learnt to affect the judgment, so confidently expressed by people in England on both sides of the question. And with reference to its extent, when the Governor asserts that "the country is on the brink of a volcano," I think that we are bound to suspend our judgment until he is able to set forth the grounds of his conclusion. He may have evidence inaccessible even to other residents in the country.

The consequences, however, to the company will necessarily be serious. The furniture at Elmwood may be replaced, and the house repaired. The damage done by the soldiers may be paid for by Government. But life can never be restored to the dead bodies of out-tenants and labourers; and under the Government as at present conducted, no true-hearted philanthropist will venture to live; moreover, it is to be feared that the confidence which has heretofore been felt by the labouring population in the agents of the company may not be continued to those who have been employed under martial law. Considering all the circumstances—my own recent illness, the illness of my sister, the personal danger to one supposed to take the part of the negroes, the almost complete stoppage of work, the necessity that you should be fully informed about matters, and my uncertainty as to what might be your resolves for the future—I felt it to be my duty to return to England, leaving Mr. Warrington to take charge of the estates until your pleasure should be known. I am thankful to have arrived safely with my family at Southampton on Tuesday, and now await your instructions.

I am, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,
(Signed) ALFRED BOURNE.

Before my son's arrival I had felt it my duty to communicate with the Right Hon. Earl Russell and Mr. Cardwell, and I wish you to see and judge of that communication. I spent thirteen years in the West Indies. Most of my fellow workers, in the great cause of religious freedom for fifteen years before I went to Jamaica, are dead, but their sons are many of them living, and I trust they will take an interest in these communications.

Believe me to remain, yours faithfully,

STEPHEN BOURNE.

55, Charing-cross, London, Dec. 17, 1865.

TO THE RIGHT HON. EARL RUSSELL.

55, Charing-cross, London, Nov. 27, 1865.

My Lord,—The Duke of Newcastle, the Baron Kettelholt, and Mr. G. W. Gordon, are gone to render an account of their stewardship to the Governor of the Universe, and so are many less distinguished persons who took part in what is called the last rebellion in Jamaica.

But Earl Russell, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Cardwell, are yet alive; and if they will turn their attention to the real cause of that rebellion and to the means of rendering Jamaica what a British colony ought to be, future and permanent good may be made to spring out of the evils which all deplore.

As a humble associate of Lord Brougham, Mr. Arthur Kinnsaid, Mr. Curney, Major-General Thompson, Mr. Hinkes (now Governor of British Guiana), and a number of other gentlemen of the greatest respectability, I waited on the Duke of Newcastle some years ago to ask him to appoint a commission to go out to Jamaica, in order to ascertain the real condition of the people of all classes and to show how the Emancipation Law had worked. His Grace appeared to think such measures unnecessary. A similar deputation made a like representation to Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer with no better results. The opinion of Mr. Stephen Cave, and other West India sugar-merchants, seemed to have great influence with the Colonial Office, and their opinions were that immigration was the remedy for all the ills of Jamaica, and this being effected, everything would right itself without other interference with the local Government. All these gentlemen seem to have lost sight of the fact that the great bulk of the population in Jamaica had been either slave-owners, or slaves, or the children of slaves, and that slavery ruins all persons exposed to its influence, and disqualifies them for a long time for the full exercise of those qualities which distinguish men born and educated under free and equal laws. Instead of seeking to increase the number of indigent and dependent persons, the aim should have been industriously and skilfully to train and educate the existing population, and rather than to lower the institutions to the degraded condition which slavery had introduced and perpetuated, to train the people to the enjoyment of the free institutions of the country. The effect of the introduction of such people as I once saw in miserable huts on the Spanish Town roadside of Kingston, apparently without food, clothing, or even shelter fit for human beings, must have been to excite the greatest possible dissatisfaction amongst those who were compelled to assist in defraying the expense of their introduction. Instead of this class of immigrants, means should have been taken to introduce those who would have brought with them capital, skill, and energy, far more requisite to the proper cultivation of the estates than mere numbers of needy and ill-instructed labourers. The plan of some sincere but short-sighted philanthropists to separate the labourers from the estates and render them independent of those who had invested capital in the cultivation of sugar, coffee, and cotton, had the effect of alienating persons from the country who would otherwise have settled as employers of labour and created a healthy competition as well as expenditure, which could not have failed to benefit all classes of the community. The country needed new life and energy from abroad, rather than a new race of ignorant and demoralised "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Men had been too long led to regard our West Indian colonies as fields for the creation of rapid fortunes, to be expended in France or England, rather than as the

homes of men and women who would be likely to improve their dependents by education and example.

Barbadoes is far more prosperous than Jamaica, because most of the estate-owners live on their properties, look after their labourers, and rear and educate amongst them virtuous and well-ordered families, by whom the general tone of moral and religious feeling can scarcely fail to be raised. On the contrary, when young men go to Jamaica, they seldom think of marrying and settling in the country, but aim to create what is called a fortune in as short a time as possible, in order to live as gentlemen in England. A similar plan appears to have been popular in the Colonial Office; for no sooner does a governor become accustomed to the country, and interested in the welfare of the people, than he is removed to some other government, for which he is perhaps disqualified by his residence in a tropical country, and the manners and habits of the people. [See Note A.] Since I went to Jamaica there have been seven governors, either of whom might have succeeded if he could have had effective agents to assist him in the government, instead of cliques of public officers, who neither understood nor desired to promote the honour of England or the true welfare of the people whom they assisted to govern.

At last, however, the system has fairly broken up. It can last no longer. A direct and positive change is inevitable. Martial law has been substituted for civil and statute law, and if the present state of things could be perpetuated, it would soon lead to the abandonment of the country by all men who valued rational liberty, and had been accustomed to regard England and her colonies as suitable abodes for free and enlightened men and their families.

I resided for thirteen years in the West Indies, and having, after much observation, experience, and reflection, formed those conclusions, and having in vain tried to influence different members of the Government in this direction, I determined to appeal to the well-known friends to freedom and education for the African race; some of them responded to that appeal, whilst others waited to see if the experiment I proposed to carry out would prove sufficiently remunerative. At length, and after much toil and dis-appointment, I succeeded in setting on foot the Jamaica Cotton Company, and raising a capital to purchase property in Jamaica, sufficiently extensive to furnish constant employment for at least six hundred people. Only a comparatively small portion of the land has hitherto been put in cultivation, for every acre of land properly fenced, drained, and planted requires an expenditure of, at the very least, from ten to fifteen pounds, before a return can be reasonably expected.

To cultivate 3,000 acres of the 5,000 we possess in such manner, would require, besides the purchase of land, buildings, machinery, &c., 30,000*l.* Now, if about 20,000*l.* in addition to that we have raised and expended could be thus employed we might, as I have shown in my letter to Sir Morton Peto, raise a very large quantity of sugar (in concrete), cotton, arrowroot, coffee, and fibres for cordage and paper pulp. At present we can only employ about 200 people, and that not at all times, because our last year's crop of cotton was all but a complete failure. The cultivation of this crop and preparing it for market cost us much more than the sum it realised. Experience has proved that the Sea Island cotton, and to a certain extent all the long-stapled cottons, are tender plants, and we have not yet had a really good season for ripening and gathering the crop. We had last year every reason, from the pains taken in cultivation and the appearance of the blossom, to expect a crop that would have paid most amply, but the winds, rain, and boll-worm led to a sad disappointment; and now we learn from the Colonial Office that our Great House at Murrion has been occupied during the late disturbances by Captain Hole and his troops, whilst many of our tenants and labourers have, we fear, been driven away, wounded, or killed; so that if the crop should this year be even more promising than the last, it is doubtful if our trained labourers will not have dispersed.

Still we do not despair of cotton. What we had sold at a much higher price than the market price for ordinary American, or Egyptian, or Brazilian cotton, and, as will be seen in Note B, we are assured by a late member of the Executive Government (the Custos of Hanover and a resident in Jamaica for forty-five years) he has every confidence in our final success. It must, however, in future be planted in virgin soil, and where it will be protected from the strong northerly breezes which prevail in that quarter. But although much of our land may be unsuited for the growth of the description of cotton we were recommended to plant, it is admirably adapted for the growth of other tropical productions. The Virgin land mostly in the mountains will bear coffee and cotton, whilst the plains are suited to pasturage, sugar-cane, arrowroot, and corn. We have, I am told, 200 acres of bamboo, and two to three thousand cocoa-nut trees, from the fibre of which very superior paper may be made.

It is reported that the estate at Elmwood has been sacked. The manager (Mr. Warrington) was recently made a magistrate, and he and our attorney, during my son's absence in England, appear to have been involved in the proceedings of the Court at Morant Bay; so that it is very possible, whilst my son was, as it appears from Captain Hole's despatch, shut in with his family at Betty's Hope (another of our estates); the property on both Murrion and Elmwood may have been exposed to the depredations of an infuriated mob. Owing, as we suppose, to the stoppage of the mails in the disturbed district, we have not heard from my son; but through the courtesy of the Colonial Office, I learn that he and his family are in safety.

We take it for granted, however, that the disturbances are at an end; that Earl Russell and Mr. Cardwell will take care that perfect justice is done in the case; and that a righteous and liberal Government will soon be established in Jamaica, as a component and important portion of her Majesty's dominions. Now, then, appears to be the time to ask the ministers of religion and the reflecting portion of the people of England in general, whether this scheme of ours for the education and industrial training of the people in this disturbed district will not be the most effectual mode of preventing further disaffection, and the destruction of property and even life itself?

Let it not be forgotten that the ancestors of these people, and even some of themselves, were brought from their own country to Jamaica to supply us by their labour with the sugar, cotton, coffee, &c., which we

have heretofore needed, and to a certain extent do still consume.

Few comparatively have had to do with this disturbance; but still they will be the principal sufferers by it, unless we provide them with that which other people have not the means of furnishing. The owners of the land all through the Mancheston district are without capital, even if they have the requisite skill, experience, and energy; and if we abandon our estates and our people, who will again make those efforts and sacrifices which our friends have done?

If the distressed labourers in the Southern States of America have claims on the Christian sympathies of England's sons and daughters, surely those whom former Governments brought away from their own land, and for whose freedom they have since made compensation, have still stronger claims on us.

There are only three ways in which they can be effectually served:—

1. By impartial justice.
2. By industrial education for the young.
3. By suitable employment at remunerative rates for the adult population.

Who will aid us in the effort to supply them?

Here are the estates; here is the machinery and water-power; here are the cotton, corn, plantains, bamboo, cocoa-nuts, &c., in actual growth, and the cultivation may be carried on to a very large extent if capital can be provided, for here are the land, buildings, &c., which were at one time valued at above one hundred thousand pounds, and these are vested in trustees of well-known respectability and integrity. [See Note C.] As to the management, both in Jamaica and in London, or elsewhere, we are quite ready to give it up to any better or more experienced or more skilful men than we can pretend to be. Choose them for yourselves, but let not this great and important enterprise fail for want of general support. Let every one who wishes to bring good out of the past and present evils put his shoulder to the wheel, and that which is now a comparative desert may be made to "blossom as the rose," and those which have been heretofore the habitations of the cruelty and ignorance inherent in slavery become as "the garden of the Lord."

I have the honour to remain, my Lord,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) STEPHEN BOURNE.

55, Charing-cross, S.W., November 27, 1865.

NOTE A.—The late Governor of Jamaica, Sir Charles Darling, had made every preparation for returning to Jamaica, and part of his luggage was, as I understand, placed in a conveyance at the door, when he was stopped by the Duke of Newcastle, and directed to proceed to Australia. He had an estate in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica, and it is probable that if he had returned to his government this rebellion would never have taken place.

NOTE B.—"Union Club, London, Nov. 2, 1865.—My Dear Sir,—I promised to write you my opinion of the chances of cotton success in Jamaica, but I have deferred the intention so long as to preclude my entering fully on the subject before I leave. I have recently given much of my attention to the cotton culture, and I am not surprised at the want of success hitherto prevailing. We were at first all practically ignorant of its cultivation of the relative value of the different varieties of the cotton plant, and also of the sort of soil best adapted to the plant. There can be no doubt now of the superior quality of cotton which can be produced in the West Indies. If the value can be sustained for a few years at 1*s.* per lb. for good quality, it will certainly pay for cultivation, and handsomely too. I have read an account of your son's proceedings on the properties of the Jamaica Cotton Company. His views and mine coincide. If you would put any questions to me, which would tend through their replies to elicit my opinion more fully, I shall be glad to give every information which my long experience in Jamaica may enable me to supply. I have been forty-five years resident there, and have held every position which the island affords. As a public character, then, I feel deep interest in the success of your enterprise, and shall deplore, in common with every well-wisher of the colony, your secession, which I don't contemplate, from the cultivation of this valuable article of commerce. It must and will pay if followed up. Excuse the brevity of this. I wish I had time fully to enter on the subject.—Yours faithfully (Signed), W. A. WHITELOCKE.—To Stephen Bourne, Esq."

NOTE C.—The shares are 10*l.* each, the liability limited, and the trustees H. E. Gurney, Esq., and R. N. Fowler, Esq. A list of the shareholders may be seen at the office, 55, Charing-cross. By a resolution of shareholders at the general meeting in December, 1862, the directors were authorised to increase the capital to 50,000*l.* About 100 shares of the original 2,000 are still on hand. Messrs. Dimsdale, Fowler and Co. are the company's bankers.

A copy of the letter to Earl Russell has been sent to Mr. Cardwell.

N.B. Should any person be disposed to aid in this work who objects to taking shares, his contributions will be applied to the formation of an industrial school for the orphan children of the district, to which object one of the five houses owned by the company may be appropriated.

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

During the trial of O'Donovan last week before the Dublin special commission, there was a striking scene in court, thus described by the correspondents of the *Times*:—

The prisoner—a man of no social mark, not superior in education to a respectable mechanic—had occupied the court all the previous day in cross-examining witnesses, apparently with the sole view of wasting time and annoying all who were connected with the prosecution. On Tuesday morning, when the court opened, he claimed his right to address the jury, and to read to them not only every document used against him, but the whole file of the *Irish People*. It soon became evident that his purpose was to talk and read against time, till the judges should be obliged to depart

for Cork. In that case he seems to have expected that the jury would be discharged, or that, if locked up, some of them would get ill, or by some other chance he might escape conviction for a while. Accordingly he went on reading with dogged perseverance from ten o'clock till six in the evening. At every step he was making his case worse and presenting the conspiracy in far darker colours than it had been painted by the Crown. He was repeatedly warned on the subject by Mr. Justice Keogh and some of the jurors, but in vain. His rude manner of proceeding also disgusted everybody, even those who might have been predisposed to sympathise, while the treasonable stuff he was reading could serve him in no way whatever, except to gratify a wanton spirit of mischief. But, however perverse or malignant, he was a prisoner at the bar of justice, entitled to defend himself in the way he thought best. And there, for eight weary hours, sat before him the two judges, listening with unflinching attention, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the law advisers of the Government, and all the officers of the Crown, a most attentive jury, the High Sheriff, and as many spectators as the court could accommodate. As an illustration of the respect which the constitution secures for the rights and liberties of the subject it was a grand spectacle. The patience, forbearance, and calm dignity of the judges were truly admirable. The tact and determination of Mr. Justice Keogh baffled the purpose of the prisoner to outrage and frustrate justice by continuing the farce for another day, though he could not save himself from personal insult. They resolved to sit all night, and had given orders to the sheriff that the jury should be supplied with dinner in the court, when the prisoner, from sheer physical exhaustion, gave up the contest.

The Solicitor-General having addressed the jury on behalf of the Crown, the court adjourned. On Wednesday O'Donovan was found guilty and sentenced to penal servitude for life—a sentence severer than in the case of the other Fenians, in consequence of his conviction for a similar charge in 1850.

On Thursday the judges opened the special commission at Cork. Great crowds awaited their arrival in that city, but all very good-humoured. Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, in delivering the charge to the grand jury, contradicted the report that he had attended a Privy Council meeting which advised these prosecutions. It was utterly devoid of foundation.

The trial of Underwood O'Connell has been postponed. John McCafferty, an American captain, was then put forward, and got a jury half foreigners, having challenged seventeen. The Attorney-General addressed the jury for the Crown, after which Nagle, the informer, was examined. It appeared that he had served in the Confederate army, and was a subject of the United States. He was, it seems, arrested while on board a steamship from America, and was brought ashore in custody. His counsel objected that he was an alien, who in his own country could not commit the offence with which he was charged, and who had not set foot on our land so as to become guilty when he was arrested. The judges held that this objection was fatal to the indictment, and the jury under their direction returned a verdict of Not guilty. He is, however, still detained in prison.

On Monday, Bryan Dillon and John Lynch were arraigned on a charge of treason. The approver Warner proved having seen the prisoner at places where men were drilled. The approver and pike-maker, Hegarty, identified Dillon as a member of the Fenian confederacy, and said he had made pikes at the prisoner's request. The case for the Crown concluded at seven o'clock, when the Court adjourned.

DR. TEMPLE AND UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.—In a long letter to the *Times* Dr. Temple explains some of his most important suggestions for University extension. His requirements are summed up thus:—"1. Let a man be admitted an out-college student on his passing the responses, and producing testimonials of good character. If he is already a member of a college, of course he should be required to produce a *bene discessit* from the college authorities. 2. Let every out-college student be required to have a Master of Arts as his tutor, and to pay him some moderate fee—say, one guinea a term. 3. Let the duties of the tutor be not to teach their wards, but to advise them what and how to read, and at the end of the term to certify to their moral conduct and to their having kept the legal residence. 4. At the end of every term let the out-college students be divided into centuries, and be examined by four examiners to each century, in whatever work they profess to have done during the term. Let class lists be published of the forty best in each century, and let a very brief statement be sent to each man's tutor of the way in which he has done each part of his work." There is another suggestion (Dr. Temple adds) that has been made which he thinks would be a very good addition to an open system, and that is to allow men to shorten their time at Oxford by keeping a term, if they choose, in the middle of the long vacation. Let them come up and have neither lectures nor examinations, but simply read for themselves.—A private hall is about to be opened at Oxford for students of limited means seeking academical degrees.

WHISKY BABIES.—A very curious specimen of smuggling is reported from Washington. The statement is that whisky is smuggled from Canada into the United States in this wise:—Women hold in their arms something resembling in shape and size real live "babies," but that, on examination, the babies turn out to be tin cases containing from three to five gallons of whisky. And, to give the thing point, we are told that the other day thirty-two such women with such babies were found in one railway-train going across the line, and that thirty of them were arrested and over 100 gallons of whisky secured!—*Toronto Globe*.

Obituary.

THOMAS THOMPSON, ESQ., OF PRIOR-PARK, BATH.—We regret to announce the decease of this venerable philanthropist, which took place last Wednesday, in the eightieth year of his age. Mr. Thompson was at a comparatively early age a member of the Stock Exchange, from which business he retired soon after his marriage to Miss Noel, sister of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel. From this date, if not even before, he devoted much of his time to objects of public and Christian usefulness, for a space covering half a century. Previously, indeed, he had identified himself with some of the leading religious associations which signalised so gloriously the opening century. The Sunday-school Union, which was formed on the 13th of July in the year 1803, in Surrey Chapel schoolrooms, was, in fact, the child of his affections. He was also treasurer of the Home Missionary Society, founded sixteen years later; from the beginning an active friend of the Bible Society, and zealous in promoting a cheap issue of the Scriptures. It was Mr. Thompson who, at the Jubilee of the Bible Society in 1853, suggested, and the Rev. J. A. James gave publicity to the proposal, to send a million copies of the New Testament in the Chinese language for distribution in that vast empire. "With little effort on their part," says Mr. Browne, the historian of the Bible Society, "but with noble, generous, and self-denying effort on the part of others, the calculated amount necessary for the proposed million of New Testaments was promptly raised; and a noble surplus was found, which, after meeting the further requirements of the project, it was proposed should be wholly devoted to the spreading of the Scriptures in China. The interest, activity, and rapid result of this new effort of Christian zeal, were, perhaps, never surpassed. Contributions flowed in from all quarters, and from all classes, in almost endless variety of amount. The poor man vied with the rich; the child with the aged sire; the colonies with the mother country; and even foreigners in climes far distant from each other, pressed in to take part in this magnificent act of charity." "In the relations of private life," says the *Westminster Times* in a cordial obituary notice of the deceased, "Mr. Thompson was a model of excellence, and no one, friend or stranger, could approach him, and not be struck with the kindness of his disposition and the courtesy of his manners. It is in his public character, however, that we desire to present him as an object of admiration and a model for imitation to the younger portion of our readers. It is sixty-two years since he took an active part in the foundation of the Sunday-school Union, with which he continued to be officially associated until his removal from London to Poundsford Park, in Somersetshire. To the end of his days, indeed, he interested himself deeply in the religious instruction of the children of the poor, never ceasing to identify himself like a brother with the body of Sunday-school teachers, and continually exercising a loving ingenuity on behalf of their youthful charge. Nothing delighted him so much as to see his pleasure-grounds crowded with Sunday-schoolers. When, with a joy peculiar to his warm heart, he heard that the New Testament might be had for twopence a copy, he could not rest until he had discovered some means of bringing down the price to a single penny; and, having first placed a copy in the hands of hundreds of little children at that small sum by virtue of his own personal liberality, he formed a scheme for the circulation of ten millions of copies at the same rate, which, with other devices of Christian charity, he was zealously labouring to carry out at the time of his decease."

SIR JOHN EASTHOPE, BART., died last week, in the eighty-second year of his age. The deceased baronet sat in Parliament for many years. From 1837 to 1847 he was member for Leicester. In 1834 he became proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, then one of the most influential London journals, and was connected with it until 1847, when it passed out of his hands. Just before Lord Melbourne quitted office, he conferred on Mr. Easthope a baronetcy, which now becomes extinct.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1865.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

The Prince of Wales has gone on a visit to his sister, the Princess Louis of Hesse, at Darmstadt. Count Eulenberg, who was accused of being concerned in the death of M. Ott, has been sentenced to confinement for five months and a half.

ITALY AND THE ZOLLVEREIN.

BERLIN, Dec. 19.

The Prussian Government has recently despatched a Circular to the States belonging to the Zollverein, containing the draught of a Treaty of Commerce between Italy and the Zollverein, and recommending their adhesion to the same.

THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT.

FLORENCE, Dec. 19.

To-day, in the Chamber of Deputies, a debate took place upon the Provisional Budget. Some members demanded that the decree according to which the National Bank would transact Business for the State Treasury should be discussed separately from the bill for the Provisional Budget, which they approved. The Minister of Finance opposed this proposition.

The Chamber, however, finally approved by 197 votes against one an order of the day inviting the Minister not to give execution to the decree above mentioned without the sanction of Parliament.

THE ROMAN STATES.

ROME, Dec. 18.

A Pontifical decree has been published, according to which a tonnage tax will be levied upon all vessels entering Roman ports.

INDIA.

These are advices from India to November 28.

By the peace recently concluded with Bhootan a subsidy of 25,000 rupees is to be paid annually to the Bhootas, and will be increased to 50,000 rupees should they remain faithful to the treaty.

A conspiracy has been detected at Cabul, in consequence of which the Governor has been imprisoned.

The Wahabias have evacuated Sttor (?), in the Persian Gulf, in consideration of a certain payment made by the Imam of Muscat.

The extension of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to Burhampore was opened on the 20th inst.

THE JAMAICA COMMISSION.—A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says that great difficulty is found in obtaining the services of competent persons to act on the Jamaica Commission. As Chancellor of the colony, the new Governor was intended for its presidency. He has, *ex officio*, the power of administering an oath, though it is more than doubtful whether the exercise of this privilege in a quasi-judicial capacity unknown to the law either of the island or of the empire could be defended on constitutional grounds.

It was hoped that at least one individual of practical experience as a common law judge might have been induced to accept the irksome and invidious post as a colleague of the Governor. Sir Lawrence Peel was asked, but declined; and one of the too numerous, because not half-worked, occupants of the Irish bench was also invited ineffectually. There is now talk of endeavouring to persuade one of our subordinate judicial functionaries to fill the gap; and as money is said to be no object, the point we may take for granted will be speedily settled. It will not be perhaps so easy to find any public man of weight and character to occupy the chair on the other hand of the Governor. Mr. Roebuck had the offer, I am told, some days ago. What could have induced Mr. Cardwell to imagine that the member for Sheffield would regard such a proposal as a compliment, I cannot conceive. He is about the last man in England, I imagine, who could be expected to quit his home in mid-winter to spend three months in the tropics, joining extra police magistrate's duty in a secondary or tertiary position of authority.

THE FENIAN TRIALS.—Dublin, Tuesday night.—Bryan Dillon and John Lynch were found guilty at Cork to-day. Dillon admitted that he was a "centre," while he denied the truth of the main points of Warner's evidence. Lynch said that if serving his country was treason, he was ready to suffer for it. The prisoners were each sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. Thomas Duggan and Jeremiah Donovan were then indicted. They pleaded not guilty, and refused to join in their challenges.

A MUNICIPALITY FOR LONDON.—At the St. James's Vestry yesterday an important letter from Mr. J. S. Mill, M.P., was read by Mr. James Beal. Mr. Mill expressed himself favourable to the scheme for uniting the whole of London under one municipality, and appointing smaller bodies whose power should be continuous with the Parliamentary districts. The only point on which Mr. Mill differs from the promoters of the scheme is in thinking that the stipendiary magistrates should be appointed by a great public functionary and not by the metropolitan corporation.

THE JAMAICA COMMITTEE.—A general meeting of the Jamaica Committee was held last evening at Radley's Hotel; Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., in the chair. Amongst the gentlemen present were Mr. Bright, M.P., Lord Alfred Churchill, Mr. C. Gilpin, M.P., Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., and several well-known members of the Anti-Slavery Society. A statement was read by Mr. F. W. Chesson, the honorary secretary, relating the steps already taken by this committee, and by that of the Anti-Slavery Society, to promote a thorough inquiry into the case; and it was announced that a member of the Scottish Bar, Mr. Gorrie, had been retained to act as counsel in Jamaica, either before the royal commission or the ordinary courts of law, for Mrs. Gordon and any other persons aggrieved by the illegal proceedings of Governor Eyre. At the same time it was suggested that the services of one or two eminent lawyers in this country should also be secured; and the executive committee was authorised to do whatever might be thought advisable in this direction. A deputation was then appointed to wait upon Mr. Cardwell to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon, and request him to allow the representatives of the committee to appear before the royal commission of inquiry. Some other business was transacted, with reference chiefly to the raising of ample funds for a protracted legal and Parliamentary contest; and the meeting adjourned.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The fresh supply of English wheat brought forward to-day was limited, and the total supply on the stands very moderate. The trade, however, ruled quiet, both for red and white qualities, at Monday's quotations. The market was fairly supplied with most descriptions of foreign wheat. The demand was in a sluggish state for all descriptions, but without leading to any quotable change in prices from Monday. Floating cargoes of grain moved off slowly, at late prices. Barley was in good supply, and slow request, at Monday's quotations. The malt trade was dull, at about previous rates. Flour was in fair demand, at Monday's currentcy.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. L."—We have no space for his letter.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1865.

SUMMARY.

SIR Henry Storks has sailed for Jamaica temporarily to supersede Governor Eyre, and it seems quite possible that his Excellency on reaching Kingston will find it to be universally admitted that the white population have been the victims of a senseless panic. By the last accounts the House of Assembly had requested the Governor to furnish them with some evidence relative to that intended "mighty rebellion" which had required such stern measures of repression. Mr. Eyre pointedly referred them to their own address in reply to his speech, and to alarmist letters and representations he had received from various parts of the island; but beyond these vague statements, and the notorious discontent of the negroes, he has furnished no information, and the proofs of a conspiracy to assassinate the whole white inhabitants of Jamaica have yet to be produced. The Home Government is said to find great difficulty in obtaining suitable persons to form the proposed Commission of Inquiry, and according to a current rumour, which is too incredible to be believed without authoritative confirmation, Brigadier Nelson, who arrived by the last mail, has brought word that the minutes of the court-martial on which Mr. Gordon was convicted, were burnt before he left Jamaica.

Both supporters and opponents of the Government have been busy during the week in expressing their views on the subject of Parliamentary Reform. At the Conservative meetings at Maldon and Haverham, Mr. Bright's vigorous assault on the Tory party was indignantly repelled, and Governor Eyre was held up as a very ill-used man. Earl de Grey, who attended a Liberal banquet at Dewsbury, vouched for the progressive policy of Earl Russell's Government, and asked for the confidence of the country in the new Administration, but observed the reticence of a responsible Cabinet Minister. In addressing his constituents at Arbroath on Wednesday, Mr. Baxter discussed the reform question at some length, stated his conviction that the Government Bill would be framed in a large spirit of generous confidence, and that Lord Russell's Ministry would stand or fall by it. "Her Majesty's Opposition," he said, "is a compact, well-organized body, and not without its uses; but it can no more prevent us by-and-by enfranchising the working classes, repealing Church-rates, disendowing the Irish Church, and opening the English Universities, with all their honours, to all subjects of the Queen, irrespective of religious belief, than it can put back the wheels of time." The explicit statement that Dewsbury is to be made a Parliamentary borough would imply that a redistribution of seats will form a prominent feature in the forthcoming Reform Bill of the Government.

The cattle plague continues to increase rapidly according to the latest returns to the Privy Council, and every method of cure seems to have more or less failed in arresting the progress of the contagion. Under these circumstances, the Royal Agricultural Society have urged upon the Home Secretary the prohibition of the transit of beasts for a limited period from one district to another, and even the moving of cattle upon farms which are intersected by public roads. Sir George Grey hesitates to comply with this stringent advice, but seems quite at a loss to suggest any preventive measures adequate to the emergency. It is, however, quite clear that the

action of local inspectors is viewed with general distrust, and the suspicion gains ground that they are the unconscionable instruments of propagating the fatal disease.

Our contemporary, the *Patriot*, has been cast in damages for a libel on Sir Robert Clifton, in connection with the late Nottingham election. Though the evidence which would have supported, if not justified, the strong language of the *Patriot*, was not allowed to be produced, the jury assessed the damage sustained by the Nottingham Baronet by being called an "aristocratic miscreant" at the moderate sum of 50*l*. When the case of Sir Robert Clifton comes to be investigated before a Parliamentary Committee, it will be seen whether he has been really injured by the free and pointed remarks passed upon his conduct, and whether our contemporary was justified in refusing to withdraw them.

The session of the American Congress has opened under peculiar circumstances. At the outset the Southern representatives were excluded by a large majority during the organisation of the House of Representatives, who have re-elected as their Speaker Mr. Colfax, an advanced Republican. It is expected that the Southern members will be kept out in the cold during the winter unless they give the guarantees which are required both by the President and Congress. In discussing the prospects of the future, the correspondent of the *Daily News* expresses his belief that "the chances of any of the revolted States getting back into the Union just now are very small indeed. Legislation no longer satisfies people at the North. It is not enough to amend the constitution, and pass such ordinances or acts as are required by the President. They ask also for the exhibition of such a spirit towards the freedmen and Northerners living at the South as shall satisfy the Northern public that the Union is really restored, and that the South is indeed reconciled to its situation. But none of the accounts which come from that quarter of late are very reassuring on these points." It is probable, therefore, that the present provisional state of things in the South will be for some time maintained—the State governments being controlled by the military power which will supervise everything relating to freedmen, and, in fact, supplement the whole system of administration. The North seems to be sternly resolved that the legitimate results of its dear-bought successes shall not be defeated either by Southern chicanery or obstinacy.

The constitutional crisis in Victoria still continues. The Legislative Council stand on their undoubted legal rights; the Representative Assembly, supported by the great mass of public opinion, in the colony, vindicate their right to send up a bill to the Upper House tacked to a Supply Bill. For some reason Governor Darling has refrained from taking the obvious course of dissolving the Parliament and making a fresh appeal to the country. No reference to the Home Government can avail, for the Colonial Office has no power to alter the constitution of the colony. But by the last advices the Council had proposed a conference, and it is only by mutual concessions that the present complications can be mastered.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S Message to Congress will favourably bear comparison with any similar document of late times, with the single exception of the last brief one of Mr. Lincoln, the moral pathos and dignity of which lifted it into the region of prophecy. It is pervaded, as every reader of it is compelled to feel, by unobtrusive but unmistakable evidence of the writer's deep sense of responsibility, of his high appreciation of the genius of the American Constitution, of his broad and statesmanlike modes of estimating the actual position of things, of his dispassionate wisdom in grappling with its difficulties, and of his earnestness of purpose that, so far as the authority of his office can avail, the scars of civil war shall be effaced as speedily as may be, and above all, the great lessons which it inculcated, at the cost of so much blood and treasure, shall be incorporated with the law of the land and secure for themselves universal obedience. Mr. Johnson has himself read the moral of that terrible convulsion through which his country has lately passed; and he is anxious that all his fellow-citizens should read it in the same light. Reunion is his watchword, but reunion based upon imperishable principles—principles of righteousness.

The Message of the President, opening with a devout acknowledgment of the Divine goodness in preserving the Union, and with a touching reference to the untimely death of Mr. Lincoln, proceeds, in the first place, to expound the mutual relations of the Constitution and the States, "because," says Mr. Johnson, "they un-

fold the principles on which I have sought to solve the momentous questions and overcome the appalling difficulties that met me at the very commencement of my administration." The authors of the Constitution, bringing to their work not only experience, but "a wisdom superior to experience," meant that the Union should be perpetual, and endowed it with all the resources necessary to its own preservation, and, as advancing civilisation might require, to its growth, but made no provision for its coming to an end, allowed no room even for the thought of a possibility of its coming to an end. "The absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority," as enforced by Jefferson, "is the vital principle of Republics." The Union supports the State Governments in all their rights, but it is not one of the rights of any State Government to renounce its own place in the Union, for the Constitution emphatically provides that itself and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance of it, "shall be the supreme law of the land." "The best security for the perpetual existence of the States is the 'supreme authority' of the Constitution of the United States. The perpetuity of the Constitution brings with it the perpetuity of the States. . . . The whole cannot exist without the parts, nor the parts without the whole. So long as the Constitution of the United States endures, the States will endure. The destruction of the one is the destruction of the other; the preservation of the one is the preservation of the other."

Such are the President's principles, or, rather, as he interprets them, the principles of the Constitution. When he entered upon his office, the States were suffering from the effects of a civil war. Resistance had exhausted itself, and the United States had recovered from them all its forts and arsenals, and occupied with its armies all their territory. The first question he had to decide was whether it should be held, under military authority, as conquered territory. The President gives his reasons—and they are weighty as well as forcibly expressed—why he could not sanction such a decision. He preferred to seek "gradually and quietly, and by almost imperceptible steps, to restore the rightful energy of the General Government and of the States." He therefore appointed Provisional Governors, called Conventions, elected Governors, assembled Legislatures, had Senators and Representatives to the Congress chosen, reopened the courts of the United States wherever it could be done, removed the blockade, re-established custom-houses, renewed the activities of the Post-office, and endeavoured by all these means to bring into play just those functions of the General Government which exhibit its aspect of usefulness and tell only of beneficence. There was risk in the policy, he admits—but he judged it to be the smallest risk—and to diminish it he asserted for the General Government "the power of pardon." "It is not too much," he says, "to ask in the name of the whole people that, on the one side, the plan of restoration shall proceed in conformity with a willingness to cast the disorders of the past into oblivion; and that, on the other, the evidence of sincerity in the future maintenance of the Union shall be put beyond any doubt by the ratification of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, which provides for the abolition of slavery for ever within the limits of our country." This having been done, the President thinks that the States may resume their places in the National Legislature—but, "here it is, for you, fellow-citizens of the Senate, and for you fellow-citizens of the House of Representatives, to judge, each of you for yourselves, of the elections, returns, and qualifications of your own members."

The President, however, while he has thus attempted to smooth the way for the return of the States to the Union, does not make light of the crime of rebellion. He wishes treason to be branded by the Supreme Judicial Court as an infamous offence; he would have traitors punished; and he desires that the question shall be judicially settled, finally and forever, "that no State of its own will has the right to renounce its place in the Union."

Mr. Johnson reviews at some length the relations of the general Government towards the four millions of inhabitants whom the war has called into freedom. He did not conceive himself constitutionally authorised to make them electors by proclamation; but he declares that good faith requires the security of the freedmen in their liberty and their property, their right to labour, and their right to claim the just return of their labour. Adequate protection must be given them, a free choice of their occupations, and a certainty of recovering stipulated wages. Until this be done, the blame of ill-success in their emancipation cannot rest on them. If it fails, "let us be careful," he says, "that the failure shall not be attributable to any denial of justice." He expatiates on the economical evils of the system of slavery, declares

it to be incumbent on the General Government to offer the most determined resistance to the establishment of inequalities, and resolutely sets his face against the presumption of any of the States in contemplating the levy of a tax on travel and merchandise in their transit, especially if coupled with a denial of the choice of route.

The remaining topics handled in this Message have perhaps less interest for our readers, with the single exception of foreign policy. On the whole, it is pacific. The President still condemns the precipitate recognition by this country of the belligerent character and rights of the late Confederacy, and complains of her behaviour in relation to the Alabama and other vessels which were allowed to escape from our ports. He regrets that the Government of Great Britain declined arbitration in the matter, because he thinks it would have been "in the interests of peace and justice to establish important principles of international law. The ground on which the British Minister," he observes, "rests his justification is, substantially, that the municipal law of a nation and the domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral: and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that that justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time, I do not advise to any present attempt at redress by acts of legislation. For the future, friendship between the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice."

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

We believe we have once before remarked respecting Mr. Bright, that his public oratory possesses at least one recommendation—it sets the whole tribe of newspapers discussing his propositions. Mindful of that fact, we warmly congratulate the honourable member on his magnificent speech at Birmingham. It struck the right key-note. It was moderate, argumentative, and, what some of his speeches have not been, full of hope and faith. To say that it was powerful would be only another way of saying that it was Mr. Bright's—but its power, we think, was of a higher kind than usual. It indicated self-restraint, and its general drift was persuasion. There are few men in the present day who are more richly endowed than he with all the qualities requisite to draw other minds into unison with his own whenever he chooses to make that his object. This is not always Mr. Bright's aim, nor do we mean to suggest that it always should be. Doubtless there are occasions when it becomes necessary to strip imposture of its false pretensions, and to castigate political insolence into a temporary semblance at least of submission. But it is matter of joy to most of the hon. gentleman's friends when his judgment inclines him to adopt the more genial tone of suasion, and it is a common impression that his success is always most marked and most extensive when he seeks rather to win over than to put to flight his antagonists.

It is said that Mr. Bright's main arguments in favour of an extension of the suffrage went very far beyond his practical conclusions—that the logical inference to be drawn from them was, not that a million new voters should be placed upon the register, but that every male inhabitant of the kingdom of full age should have the suffrage. It is impossible to please some people. If your reasons fall short of your proposition they are denounced as worthless—if they go beyond your proposition they are found fault with for proving too much. We suppose that even those persons who object to Mr. Bright, would concede the propriety of some extension of the franchise, and we will imagine that their concession if acted upon would increase the number of voters' names upon the register by some assignable proportion, however small or large. Will they undertake to support that increase by reasons which shall neither fall short of, nor go beyond, the precise addition to be made? The complaint is absurd. Mr. Bright states the grounds on which he rests the claim of a large proportion of his fellow-countrymen to the franchise. That he may obviate, not his own apprehensions of danger, but those of others who can influence the decision, he limits his practical demand—gives as well as takes—accommodates himself to circumstances which cannot at present be overruled—prefers, in fact, a per centage of gain to a total loss. In any other man, and on any other question, this course would commend itself to most minds as reasonable—in Mr. Bright, and on the question of Parliamentary Reform, it is stigmatised by some of the leaders of political thought amongst us as illogical. So true is the old proverb that "any stick is good enough to beat a dog with." All weapons are accounted fair when Reform is to be the victim. We have no means of judging as to the ex-

tent to which the Ministerial measure will correspond with Mr. Bright's notion of a minimum. Nor is it possible to conclude, from the signs which have yet appeared, whether Government will restrict themselves to an extension of the suffrage, vertical, lateral, or both. As we have before intimated, such a limitation of their plan may facilitate the immediate passage of the measure through Parliament, and may therefore be deemed expedient for the time being. But it ought not to be concealed that this alone will not be any settlement of the question. It will full surely be followed, and that at no very distant date, by a loud demand for some redistribution of seats. Of this, which after all is one of the most important aspects of the question, Mr. Bright said nothing at Birmingham, and hence we infer that he is of opinion that this part of our representative system must be left as it is until a more favourable opportunity presents itself for dealing with it to any good purpose. We cannot profess dissent from such a conclusion, nor are we at all sure that we can give it our concurrence. We do not possess sufficient information as to the state of Parliamentary parties, to have formed a judgment on this head upon which we can place reliance. But it is obvious enough that if the necessity of the case precludes all chance of dealing with it at once, a strong inducement with some people to acquiesce in the Ministerial proposition will be materially weakened. There is a wide-spread desire to settle the question of organic change for the present generation at least, and there are numbers of men who affect no partiality for Reform, who would yet support a complete measure on the understanding that it was to end the series. We are by no means convinced that their adhesion will be gained to a measure which leaves a large department of the controversy untouched.

Mr. Bright adverted to two or three of the ends which, it may be hoped, will be gained by an amendment of our representative system. We do not think that he was bound to do so. We are not convinced that it is politic to do so. What will be the probable course of legislation when the House of Commons more fully represents the mind of the people, it is not the business of reformers to predict. It suffices to know that it will be more in harmony with public opinion, whatever that may chance to be. We value Reform prospectively not because we believe that it will secure the triumph of this or that particular measure, but because we believe it will bring about a considerable and much-needed change in the tone of feeling with which not a few large but novel districts of political thought are now habitually regarded by our legislators. They will be compelled to study many questions under fresh aspects, because under fresh conditions. They will be obliged to dispel their now wilful ignorance, and to rouse themselves from their cherished indifference. And when the state of Parliamentary sentiment closely resembles that of the people, there are a hundred practical questions which cannot now get a hearing which will push themselves into the light, and obtain for themselves legislative recognition.

REPAYMENT OF A DEBT.

To talk of the payment of debts before Christmas is scarcely *comme il faut*. But the claim we refer to is one of long standing, and more optional than obligatory. It is the debt we owe to our American cousins—one that can be paid in only one acceptable way, by helping them to help the coloured freedmen.

We are negrophilists, as the *Times* is pleased to interpret the phrase. We are not of those who think with Mr. Roebuck that the coloured races are doomed to extermination like wild animals, and that we are therefore to stand aside while Fate brandishes the sword—or, in other words, while human greed and lust work out their ignoble ends under shelter of a pretended natural law. Nor can we subscribe to the chivalrous doctrine current amongst us that the strong and dominant white races are to monopolise all our sympathies, and the Africans to be kicked out of creation because they are defenceless. If that be Christianity, we have not read our Bible aright. If an un pitying Destiny rules the universe, there can be no room for a Divine law, and the same fate which ordains the extinction of the black man will overtake his weak white brother, and justify despotism and oppression all the world over. It is not pleasant to think that a cruel and relentless theory which has been scouted among civilised nations, proscribed in Europe, and overthrown in America, is to find its last shelter among a people who have been wont to boast that they were the first to abolish slavery, and who have waged continual and suc-

cessful war with oppression in every guise. If we have little inclination to make common cause with the whites of Jamaica, it is because, as Earl Grey says, they have never passed one single measure intended to elevate the negroes. It is the same in the Southern States of America. Unwillingly, and by the force of events, the slaveholders have been obliged, by might united with right, to decree the freedom of four million of helots. They are indisposed to facilitate the work of emancipation. But their fellow-countrymen in the North are manfully striving to prepare the coloured race for their new life, and invite us to assist them in the noble enterprise.

To carry out this design is the object of the National Freedmen's Aid Society. Whether the coloured population of the Southern States is to sink back into barbarism, and to be doomed to ultimate extinction, or be fitted for the life of freemen, depends apparently upon the external help and protection they receive. Their late masters have indeed nominally taken off their fetters, and allowed them to reap the fruits of their own industry. But only on compulsion. Some of the Southern States have already begun to forge fresh chains in the shape of vagrant and apprenticeship laws, which would in effect restore slavery. So ominous are the signs of bad faith among the mass of whites in the South, that President Johnson has found it necessary to tighten the rein, which he has hitherto held so lightly, and Congress has shut its doors in the face of the representatives of the late Confederate States. This conflict, to make emancipation a reality, is likely to be protracted and hotly waged. It would be foolish to expect that a people whose whole social life has been based on slavery, will surrender it without a struggle. But with this phase of the anti-slavery question in America, we have no other concern that belongs to deeply-interested spectators.

The North, however, is not only bent upon enforcing emancipation as a political measure, but in fitting the coloured race for their new life, and enabling them to pass through the transition state with as little of suffering and hardship as possible. The philanthropist has, indeed, outstripped the statesman. While the armies still occupied the field, Freedmen's Aid Societies were pursuing their benevolent mission, relieving distress, clothing the naked, finding employment for the idle, and planting among the negro refugees the school and the church. Now that peace has come, with emancipation in its train, those who were most earnest in the Free States in the anti-slavery struggle are resolved on securing for the entire coloured population all the blessings of freedom. We can hardly imagine a grander enterprise than this attempt to elevate a whole race sunk in ignorance and barbarism, and to supplement the gift of freedom with those material, educational, and religious appliances which are adapted to qualify the recipients for using it aright. That paternal responsibility which the slaveowners professed to accept, but ignored, they are less than ever likely to recognise now that the negroes are no longer their chattels. We cannot suppose that they will as a rule act differently to the Jamaica planters, who have shown a heartless indifference to the well-being of the coloured people amongst them.

Northern philanthropy has, therefore, taken upon itself the beneficent task, and appeals to the English people for help, in surmounting the inevitable difficulties of a great social revolution and in mitigating the lot of "the stripped and perishing multitude torn to pieces beneath the giant monsters of war and slavery." That assistance is asked not to maintain the freedmen of America in idleness, but to relieve absolute and widespread destitution—to place the negroes in a position to help themselves, and to become worthy citizens of a free commonwealth instead of a degraded and proscribed caste. The various religious bodies in America are alive to their obligations, and are preparing to carry the blessings of education and Christianity to the Southern population. For this purpose the Congregationalists are raising a fund of three quarters of a million of dollars, but so vast is the field that they reasonably invite their friends in England to co-operate in the work.

These claims, whether they take a philanthropic or religious form, appeal with peculiar force to the sympathies of the British people. When Ireland was stricken with famine, America sent over in four months 170,000 tons to relieve her distress. When Lancashire was prostrated by the scarcity of cotton, she despatched shiploads of provisions to feed our starving operatives. These debts of gratitude we can now gracefully recognise in a form which Dr. Storrs tells us will be received "as a strong pledge of sympathy." A hearty and generous response to this invitation to co-operate in securing the full blessings of emancipation to the freedmen of America would be the most effectual means of extinguish-

ing any lingering international differences, and strengthening the ties of brotherhood between the two great English-speaking peoples of the world.

KINGS, AND A KING'S BIRTHDAY.

ONE more European king honourably rests from his labours, and another and a new reign has auspiciously begun. Long as it now is, the world's catalogue of kings new and old seems still in a fair way of being indefinitely lengthened. Or shall we believe that a day approaches when the trappings of Royalty will be finally laid aside, and the office itself belong to the past? Will the news, *Le roi est mort*, cease at length to be followed instantly by the proclamation, *Vive le roi*? Monarchy is still in many instances an organic part of constitutional governments, and there seems to be still room in minds which are neither ignorant nor servile for a strong sentiment of loyalty. But what is loyalty, it may be asked. In part, we shall perhaps be told, loyalty is a piece of antiquated superstition, and in part a mere circumlocution. In so far as "the dignity which doth hedge a king" is not as unfounded a belief in "men whose heads do grow beneath their shoulders," it means simply the same kind of respect for the symbols of law and order as we feel towards a policeman's uniform or a constable's staff. On the other hand, there are persons who do not accept this as at all an exhaustive or complete account of loyalty, by whom the feeling is nevertheless set down as a transitory one, and a weakness which the world is out-growing. If they allow a certain value to institutions like aristocracy and monarchy, it is simply because these afford a kind of provisional exercise for a set of human faculties which might have been much better employed. Even despotism and feudalism helped to keep alive in the world the important habit of veneration and looking up. Princes and "kings of the earth," had the honour of being thus a species of lay figure, or they were like the clay model which is to give place by-and-by to the finer and more enduring marble. The homage paid to the shadow was a step towards revering the substance. The consideration which will one day be shown only to exalted virtues and powers of intrinsic value, is as it were a graft on the old blind sentiment of loyalty, somewhat as a knowledge of the real properties of matter grew out of alchemy, and astrology led the way to a scientific study of the stars.

We are not prepared to say that either of the above views contains the whole truth on this subject. Where wisdom and goodness do at any time appear on a throne, that is a situation which affords grand opportunities. With or without "the guinea stamp" of royal or of any other splendid rank, "a man's a man for all that," and great personal worth deserves its due meed of honour whether shown in what a man does or leaves undone, as by a king for example in practising the difficult art of not governing too much. Is it only by a figure of speech that the attributes of sovereignty are ascribed to the Saviour of the world? If not, then the world's annals contain one name in which nothing is wanting either to the kingly ideal or its realisation. Vast and wide are the distinctions which separate the kingdom which is not of this world from those which are, and yet the former both supplies a key to many of the failures of the latter, and a test by which to discriminate, among their apparent glories, between the sterling and the base. The direct and indirect effects of Christianity have begun to appear, as in all human relations, so in those between sovereigns and their subjects. Theoretically too, the Gospel has done much to invigorate and purify men's judgment in their estimate of the province and the limits of law. There was once a period when a human king was a type of Christ, and prefigured faintly and afar off the yet future reign of the Prince of Peace. We are being taught now, by the Providence and Word of God, each interpreting the other, to compare with the authority and spirit of Christ, as these are now manifested, the various kinds of dominion which human kings have exercised, and to study, as retrospectively illuminated by "the light of the world," the events of the world's own history. These are thoughts which lie all the nearer to us, at a season which, besides being celebrated on other grounds, is endeared as the birthday of a King.

Being born a king, means conventionally, simply that you are the eldest male child of a certain family. The great recommendation of hereditary succession to the throne, is that such a rule prevents uncertainty and contention. It does not, however, secure even a minimum amount of intelligence or virtue in the heir. Shall we call it one of the compensations, or one of the contradictions, of human life, that where a monarch is selected on account of his merits, you run the risk of a revolution; and that where he is placed in office

by the circumstance of birth you have no guarantee against his being a profligate or fool? Which are worse, the chances of civil war, or of being ruled by an idiot? The constitutional escape from this dilemma, is that the monarch does not in reality rule at all. The wiser he is, the more resolutely he declines, like the late King of Belgium, to act as his own Minister. He possesses a little power of his own, and is besides this the honoured symbol of a great deal of power residing in other departments of the State, and for administering which well, others more than he are responsible. Even if there were no danger of his abusing his superiority to keep his subjects in a state of childishness and tutelage, no one man could by possibility be found in all respects superior to some millions of subjects. The kingdom which cannot be moved is exempted from these limitations. Weak and ill-advised as it would be to place ourselves at the disposal of any absolute human power or uncontrolled human will, there is a proportionate joy in exercising submission and trust where our faith is infinitely deserved. One of the deepest cravings of our nature is satisfied when we find that in a Sovereign who was born of our own flesh and blood we can place a confidence which hurts neither self-respect nor honest self-reliance; that the more we learn, the more reasons we discover for being unreservedly loyal to Him; and that here, instead of being a source of weakness, loyalty raises our whole intellectual and moral phase of being, assimilating every faithful and loving subject to the Lord whom he serves.

What shall we say of kings who were not born kings, or at least not of royal lineage, but who made themselves by their own act masters of nations, and grasped by main force at a sceptre which they knew they had strength to retain and to wield?

Julius Cæsar and the First Napoleon are said by the latest biographer of the former to have been raised up by Providence to stamp with the seal of their genius a new era. It is of such kings and conquerors too, that he adds, "Happy the people who comprehend and follow them! Woe to those who misunderstand and combat them." Woe, we should say rather, to the nations which, like Rome at the time of Cæsar, have been brought so low by degradation and misgovernment as to make despotism seem for a moment the lesser evil, because the alternative is chaos. Happy the nations which, like those of Europe in the time of Napoleon, wake up, if late, yet not too late, to beat back gigantic wrongdoing, and to prove that the genius of one is a sorry antagonist for the self-respect and energy of millions, and a yet sorrier substitute for the advancement of all. Divine truth and love have their seat of empire in the conscience and the soul; but the invariably happy and elevating consequences of their dominion have done much to demonstrate how ignoble a thing is any kind of government which does not find its glory very principally in the good of the governed.

The eyes of men are being opened to the stupendous illusions in which they plunge themselves, when they admire any dazzling appearance of power, no matter whether human well-being is pushed back or helped forward. As the merits and demerits of kings, new and old, pass continually under review, there are some who are doomed very surely to rise to no higher honours, but to be stripped rather of those which now decorate their names. A nation, say, is lying as if by the wayside, naked and wounded, and they step in, not so much to pour oil and wine into her wounds, as to raise her up to be treated henceforth as their own beast of burden. Instead of being reclaimed from her past errors and follies, and led on with the least possible delay in the path of a real and noble development, her temporary helplessness affords an occasion for gigantic selfishness and craft to bind her hand and foot, and lead her captive at their will.

Very benevolent royal intentions have been more than once avowed in modern times, under the formula of, "Let everything be done *for*, but nothing *by*, the people." That is, let governments attain one half of their object by deliberately sacrificing the other half. One of the chief ends for which government exists, is to train men as independent political action alone can train them—to afford to as many persons as possible an opportunity of practically interesting themselves in the affairs of the whole community. Any benefits which flow to a nation are at least double in value if they come as the result of voluntary action, and unconstrained thought, as exercised by the nation. There is no such thing as governing absolutely and purely without the consent of the governed. The question is, with the consent of how many will you be contented, and on what terms? Will you postpone the many to the few? or will you be just and equal? The most tyrannical Sovereign who ever breathed had to secure at all events the

attachment and fidelity of his guards, and indeed of a sufficient body of men to compel the obedience and tribute which were not rendered voluntarily. At the same time, if results which can only be secured by the obedience of a standing army, are placed at one pole, we may place at the other the best part of our own national life in England, the part which is most spontaneous and voluntary. Without this we should soon come to a dead lock in the boasted checks and balances of our constitution. Even of a period so early as the beginning of the seventeenth century, hear the calm but strong language of Mr. Hallam: "What, then, had James the First to rest upon? 'What renders it absurd to call him and his children usurpers?' He had that which the flatterers of his family most affected to disdain, the will of the people; not certainly expressed in regular suffrage or declared election, but unanimously and voluntarily ratifying that which in itself could surely give no right, the determination of the late Queen's Council to proclaim his accession to the throne." There is no occasion to descant here on the relations between religion and freedom, but it is in proportion as the one is pure and undefiled that the other may be expected to flourish. It is the King who was born at Bethlehem, who inaugurated once for all, and conjoined with motives and beliefs which are making it progressively victorious, the mighty principle of liberty—not the liberty which consists merely in the absence of oppression, but a volition as active as unimpeded—a liberty which, being first of all made sure of in the interior life of conscience, and of just and kind and manly affections, rises inevitably into all the mutual relations of men. We are about to keep the birthday of One who will not have slaves to reign over. The great ransom price He paid for us He uses rather as an argument why we should trust Him, and as a proof of His willingness to trust us, and that even in dying in our behalf, He regarded us as upon the footing of friends. As it is He who makes our dead hopes alive again, and in Him our lost treasures are to be found, so there are no honours more suitably paid to Him than those which rise amid the peaceful remembrances and loving thoughts of the Christmas fireside. Compared with the immense train of events, and the long series of prophets, who "prepared the way of the Lord," the most august line of ancestry which ever legitimised any monarch among men, appears petty and mean. Yet, as though He had not been born a King, He did as it were create for Himself an empire, carving it out step by step, though in men whom He did not wound but make whole, laying foundations deeper than the grave, and with sure evidences of a love which will last world without end.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The fourth anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort (Thursday) was observed by the Queen and the various members of the Royal family with more than usual solemnity. In the morning her Majesty and the Royal family attended a special service at the Mausoleum, and before retiring strewed the sarcophagus with chaplets of *immortelles*, laurestinus, and chrysanthemums. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales also visited the Mausoleum during the afternoon.

The future husband of the Princess Helena, Prince Christian of Augustenburg, had a narrow escape on his return to the Continent from his betrothal visit, on Wednesday night. He was a passenger on board the mail steamer *Samphire*, for Calais, which, when about six miles from Dover, was run into by an American barque. Both vessels were injured, and had to get to Dover as they could. Three lives were lost.

The Queen and Royal family attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel, Windsor Castle. The Dean of Westminster preached.

The *Post* says Earl Russell is quite recovered from his indisposition.

Earl Granville, President of the Council, will succeed Lord Palmerston as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

We (*Star*) have reason to believe that the dispute between the Government of Spain and the Republic of Chili is on the eve of an amicable arrangement. The mediation of England has been accepted by Spain, and there is every reason to believe that that Power is quite prepared to abide by the propositions which England may suggest as the means of a friendly termination to the unfortunate dispute.

Sir Morton Peto, M.P., writes to the Bristol Reform Union, explaining that in his recent speech he did not (as had been understood) express an opinion that Reform should be referred to a Commission.

On Monday the Queen and Royal family left Windsor for Osborne.

The *Staffordshire Advertiser* says:—"We learn from a source on which reliance may be placed, that the following are among the propositions to be contained in the new Reform Bill:—Every person who pays income-tax, and everyone who pays 40s. assessed taxes, is to be admitted to the franchise. The qualification in counties will be reduced to 20*l.*, and in boroughs to 6*l.*"

Literature.

LIFE AND LETTERS OF THE LATE
REV. F. W. ROBERTSON.*

(Second Notice.)

In the brief chapters which contain the principal facts of the early life, the University career, and the first ministerial labours of Mr. Robertson, we have already had clear and interesting view of the directive and animating forces under which he became that which he was seen to be in mature life, and in the fullest power of his ministry. These, we think, present a study of the culture of native faculties under the strongly-marked guidances of Divine Providence, and of the combination of influences voluntarily submitted to with others involuntarily received and obeyed, which will prove very instructive in itself; and which is most important as supplying interpretation of the sympathies, the chosen aims, and the various elements of power, which appear in the fully-formed character and after career. In fulfilment of our promise, we now attempt—but necessarily with a brevity which must do great injustice to the subject, in consequence of new and severe pressure on our space by the literature of the season—to give some indication of the later career of Mr. Robertson, and of the advantages and the difficulties through which he wrought the work which constitutes his contribution to the advancement of truth and the enlightenment of his generation, and the gladness and the sorrow with which he lived his life and laboured, not always with a hopeful or patient spirit, but wholly with unswerving purpose and purest devotion, to the end.

At the close of his ministry at Winchester, which, it is said, gave comparatively little promise of his future excellence as a preacher, Mr. Robertson, with a sense of failure and a mournfulness, due much more to temperament and to habits of seclusion, than to facts of the interior life or the results of his labours, set out for the continent. There he travelled on foot, and entered freely into the life and manners of men of all classes. As he travelled with strangers, or sojourned with them, he seems to have made it a habit to speak of spiritual subjects with a freedom and boldness which but few men might venture on; but his earnestness and delicate courtesy were his defence, and while none, it is said, were ever offended, many were led to disclose the difficulties of their religious and their worldly life, and even aged persons were drawn to confidence and attachment by the enthusiasm and the entire absence of self-consciousness which appeared in his words and actions. On his return from the continent, he accepted the curacy of Christ's Church, Cheltenham; and the period spent in that conventional and worldly-religious place witnessed the crisis of Robertson's spiritual development, and the change of his doctrinal views of Christianity. His sermons had previously contained the very statements, the persistent and elaborate statements, of Evangelical opinion, which he afterwards with almost bitterness and contempt repudiated, while much of their colour unquestionably remained in his thoughts to the last. He now suffered, it appears, from some trial of which we have no particular account, was powerfully influenced by new friendships, was repelled by the unreality of Church-of-England Evangelicalism as he found it, and was shocked and disgusted by the narrow and immoral tone of the press representing the same party; and the issue—the process not being sufficiently disclosed to justify more than the simple statement of the issue—was, that he abandoned the Evangelical school, after "a period of spiritual agony so awful that it not only shook his health to its centre, but smote his spirit down into so profound a darkness, that of all his early faiths but one remained, 'It must be right to do right.'" Mr. Brooke has some affecting remarks on this painful crisis of his friend's history; and if our readers would see it as Robertson himself saw it in later years, they will find, in his lecture to working men at Brighton, a passage in which evidently its experiences are reflected. In 1846, leaving his work at Cheltenham, he started for the continent; and although he did not permit himself the rest and refreshment he sorely needed, he gained to himself calmness and strength, and renewal of faith, by both his studies and his ministerial labours, at Heidelberg especially. He was too truth-loving, too sincere and lowly before God, too trustful in the living Christ, to

be left to desolation by the tempest that swept over his soul. It was impossible to him to resume work at Cheltenham; and he resigned his curacy. Here let us say that there was something morbid, as well as something most real, in the aversion to Cheltenham and its society and religious life, which Mr. Robertson at this time, and ever after, indulged; and, perhaps, the gloom of his own soul was nearly as much cast by him on his surroundings, as it was occasioned by them.

With returning health of body and mind came the eager desire for employment. The Bishop of Oxford appointed him to St. Ebbe's, Oxford; with the distinct understanding that Robertson did not believe, and would not preach, the doctrine of baptismal regeneration. Here he laboured only two months, during which his church was thronged by the young men of the University; and he spoke freely what was in him, earnestly and without fear. One could almost wish that Oxford had retained him. Incapable as he was, in the very make of his sympathies, of being merely a Churchman, and being, by force of natural independence, little liable to be a disciple of any partial school, and having the most serious and weighty sense of his ministerial responsibilities, it would seem that he might have found such a sphere in Oxford as no other place in the kingdom presented, and might have left a valuable impression on a new generation of thinkers and preachers. It seems to us very evident that in the atmosphere of Oxford he would have been more evangelical and more orthodox than under the renewed irritations and even contempt of spirit occasioned by the haze of seaside fashionable religion. But it was to be otherwise, and his work at Brighton leaves no room for doubt, that, whatever the deficiencies of its outcome as religious thought, its spiritual power and effect evidenced how clearly he was appointed to the place and the labour in which his life closed.

In 1847 he went to Brighton. He "struck out boldly into the open sea," as a religious teacher; and there was "no hesitation, no reticence in his teaching." Some of the congregation became estranged from him, and, before long, suspicion had to be encountered. We could wish that Robertson's tone as to those who distrusted his influence and deprecated his views had shown something more of the gentleness and respectfulness, the absence of which in others he so bitterly condemned. An honest, daring, but keenly sensitive spirit is liable, when departing from ways it once revered, to be goaded by small things to an unhealthy vehemence and an extreme antagonism. Robertson can hardly be acquitted of this. But he had also the sunshine of success, the excitement of conscious power, in his new ministry; yet, his spiritual truthfulness, intensity of purpose, and full-hearted devotion to his work, suffered no injury from popularity, the very mention of which he loathed, nor were broken-down by either mental depression or the virulence of opposition with which he contended. At earlier periods of life he had accustomed himself to write down the results of careful self-analysis, and to add the practical resolves which such analysis seemed to dictate. There was in each case something painful about the strained conscientiousness, something diseased about the depreciatory judgment, these papers displayed. On entering on his Brighton work, he, for the last time, if we remember correctly, wrote such censures and determinations for the help of his spirit in humility and faithfulness; and, although they are not such as ought to command sympathy perfect and entire, yet there is a nobleness of manhood and a simple fervent godliness in them, which nothing of his testimony or work during the remaining years of life dimmed or dishonoured. It is well known how he in those years drew around him the more thoughtful and earnest-minded men of the town, how great a name he made amongst cultivated people of all sections of the Church, and how powerfully he influenced the working-classes both socially and religiously. It is not, perhaps, as well known that this intellectual and peculiarly spiritual man also took, by his preaching, an intimate hold on the minds of domestic servants, whose regard for him had expression in the gift of a set of prayer-books for his use in conducting public worship, and made him aware that the unintelligibility he had so morbidly dreaded was no characteristic of his ordinary ministry.

The subsequent incidents of Mr. Robertson's life are more generally known than those of which we have given a too scanty outline; and we must now leave our readers to seek from the volumes of Mr. Brooke the story of those years which run along with the sermons committed to the press when the years and the works of them had closed, and which have made Mr. Robertson known and admired wherever English Christianity preserves a catholic spirit and a free life. We do not even attempt to sketch the

last scenes of all; nor to reproduce the impressions which their naturalness, their solemnity, their sadness, their piety, made on our minds. We pass by also, without even a word of indignation or contempt, the conduct of the Vicar of Brighton, which painfully shadowed, if it did not assist more speedily to bring on, the termination of the labours and sufferings in which Robertson was consuming away. There was much manliness and endurance in the last month of his pulpit ministrations; the spirit of those ministrations may be gathered from a perusal of his last three lectures on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians. The words, "Finally, brethren, farewell"—formed partly his last text. "I think now that I shall not get over this:—His will be done!"—these were the closing words of the last letter he penned. And now, his remains rest in a hollow of the Downs he loved so well; and, standing by his grave, there comes to the ear the "grand 'for ever,' of the distant sea."

We promised our readers some specimens of Mr. Robertson's peculiarly excellent gifts as a letter-writer; and in now presenting extracts which can only very poorly represent these deeply interesting, because familiar and unrestrained, expressions of his mind and heart, we feel it necessary to quote the words of Mr. Brooke on the question, whether the truest idea of what he was may be gained from his letters, or from his sermons. He says:—

"The sermons picture what he strove to be, what he was when he felt and acted best, what he would have been had his life been less vexed, his heart less fiery, and his brain less attacked by disease. Of the letters, some represent him in his happiest and most intellectual moments; others in times of physical weariness, when both intellect and heart were pained with trouble, and beset with questions too hard for him to solve completely; and a few, when his whole being was convulsed in the crisis of a great religious change. . . . Only when both are read, and balanced one against the other, can an adequate idea be formed of what he was."

The following characteristic passage occurs in a letter to a friend, under date, March 14, 1851:—

"You do not 'get a clearer conception of truths.' You are 'less able wholly to understand.' Can it be otherwise? If instead of a clearer conception you are getting a grander idea, even though it should give a bewildering sense of indefiniteness and infinitude, is not this gain rather than loss? Who can 'understand'? If a man understands spiritual truth, I should think he knows, because he feels little about it. If you are exchanging measurable maxims for immeasurable principles, surely you are rising from the mason to the architect. 'Seven times?' No—no—no—seventy times seven. No maxim—a heart principle. I wonder whether St. Peter wholly understood that, or got a very clear conception from it. A sublime idea he did, no doubt, which would for ever and for ever outgrow the outline of any dogmatic definition; but just so far as St. Peter could define less what he believed on that point, he would know more. And yet I dare say there were respectable Pharisees in that day who would gravely shake their heads, and say that it was a dangerous thing to do away with old-established rules, and throw a man upon the feelings of a vague, unlimited principle. It seems to me that this feeling of vagueness is inevitable when we dare to launch out upon the sea of truth. I remember that half-painful, half-sublime sensation in the first voyage I took out of sight of land when I was a boy; when the old landmarks and horizon were gone, and I felt as if I had no home. It was a pain to find the world so large. By degrees the wind got familiarised to that feeling, and a joyful sense of freedom came. So I think it is with spiritual truth. It is a strangely desolate feeling to perceive that the 'Truth' and the 'Gospel' that we have known were but a small home-farm in the great universe, but at last I think we begin to see the sun, moon, and stars, as before, and to discover that we are not lost, but free, with a latitude and longitude as certain and far grander than before."—Pp. 21, 22, vol. ii.

The following letter to one of his friends entering on life in London contains valuable hints on the effects of unhealthy excitements.

"Last night I wrote so rapidly to save the post that possibly my meaning may have been obscure. What I intended to say was this. The life you are now about to enter will be of an exciting character; diminish it as you will, yet balls, theatres, late hours, varied society, must necessarily make the atmosphere you breathe highly stimulating. What you want in your other life is a corrective and emollient."

"It matters little that you avoid the theatre and music, if in their stead you substitute Gavazzi, with his theatrical pose and voice, and his exciting orations. I do not say that under no circumstances it would be desirable to hear him. Were you for months in a dull country town, I should say it might be well to vary its monotony by such an excitement, and its exaggeration might be even wholesome as the counteractive of an extreme; but under present circumstances, if you are really in earnest in your desire to discipline your spirit and get the peace which can alone come from watchfulness, I should say it is one of those indulgences which must be pernicious; though one which, of course, the worn, faded London ladies must find most delightful, varying their excitement with a fresh stimulus, and giving them horse-radish when they are tired of mustard, cayenne when wearied of horse-radish. This, I believe, Mr. —, too, had done for them, and probably this is what serious generally accomplish. One spoonful of cayenne to six of mustard, and Soyer himself could not then give such piquancy to their week—would to God I were not a mere pepper-cruet to give a relish to the palate of the Brightonians!"

"Well, to proceed. I think natural facts most valuable for your mind to repose upon; but the class which you select are precisely those which, instead of

* *Life and Letters of Frederick W. Robertson, M.A., Incumbent of Trinity Chapel, Brighton, 1847-53.* Edited by STOPFORD A. BROOKE, M.A. Two Vols. With Portraits. Smith, Elder, and Co.

giving the repose of philosophic certainty, leave the mind in a whirl of wonder and perplexity. The disputed facts, which are not recognised as facts, which produce controversy and excitement, mesmerism, electro-biology, odology, half the time—nay, one-tenth of the time—wasted upon the charlatans who invent these, or mystify the real facts contained in them, would put many in possession of truths quite as marvellous, infinitely more beautiful, because their connection with life and usefulness is known, and far more capable of disciplining the mind towards peace and rest and God. I can see no effect produced by the others except bewilderment, dogmatism, or scepticism. Let philosophers examine them, separate the error from the facts; and then we can look at them; but at present, entirely untrained in such studies, we are as little able to distinguish the laws of the universe from jugglery as a ploughman is to separate vaccination from the charm system; and the appeal to judgment in these matters seems to me always a great presumptive proof of something false.

"Besides which the popular mind, always craving belief, takes up implicitly these crude phenomena with a reverence which is so much abstracted from rightful objects; and then the vacillation and perpetual uncertainty in which the mind is left produces a glow of excitement which betrays what is in fact the real attractiveness in these pursuits—the power they have to give excitement with no mental trouble."—Pp. 27-29, vol. ii.

To a member of his congregation needing religious counsels, he wrote, from his heart of hearts, as follows:—

"Of course people speak bitterly against my teaching, and of course I feel it keenly. But I cannot help it, and I cannot go out of my way to conciliate opposition and dislike. Misapprehension will account for part. Partly the divergence is real. But to place the spirit above the letter, and the principle above the rule, was the aim of His life, and the cause of the dislike He met with; therefore I am content. And this, by the way, affords an answer to one part of your perplexity, viz., whether it be not dangerous to draw so exact a parallel between His office and ours? I only reply that, except in feeling a fellowship and oneness with that life, and recognising parallel feelings and parallel struggles, triumphantly sometimes, I do not see how life could be tolerable at all. He was Humanity, and in Him alone my humanity becomes intelligible. Do not tremble at difficulties and shoreless expanses of truth if you feel drifting into them. God's truth must be boundless. Tractarians and Evangelicals suppose that it is a pond which you can walk round and say, 'I told the truth.' 'What, all?' 'Yes, all; there it is, circumscribed, if you do not think this pond of mine, that the great Mr. Scott, and Mr. Newton, and Mr. Cecil dug quite large enough to be the immeasurable Gospel of the Lord of the Universe.'—Pp. 40, 41, vol. ii.

Our last extract shall be from a letter of the same period—perhaps the most significant in his spiritual history; and, in this, his faith and profound conviction are in contrast with the real rationalism and egotistic conceit of which he writes forcibly in condemnation.

"In a letter I have just read of H. Martineau's, she says that her life was a series of abject discipleships till now, when she is 'independent.' I am glad you dislike the book. It is the most offensive I have read for a long time, not because of its atheism, naked as that is, but because of the impertinent assumption of superiority which characterises the letters of these inspired two. I can conceive a severe science compelling a mind step by step to the atheistic conclusions; and that mind, loyal to truth, refusing to ignore the conclusions or to hide them. But then I can only conceive this done in a noble sadness, and a kind of divine infinite pity towards the race which are so bereft of their best hopes; and have no patience with a self-complacent smirk which says, 'Shut up the prophets; read Martineau and Atkinson; friendship, patriotism, are mesmerised brain; faith, a mistake of the stomach; love, a titillatory movement occurring in the upper part of the nape of the neck; immortality, the craving of dyspepsia; God, a fancy produced by a certain pressure upon the grey parts of the heavy pudding within the skull; Shakespeare, Plato, Hannibal, and all they did and wrote, weighed by an extra ounce or two of solid pudding.'

"It is the flippant tone in which the most solemn hopes of the noblest humanity are disposed of that disgusts me. Besides, the angelic pair have deduced from their premises a conclusion of disproved, instead of not proven, which is all that science can ever pretend to show. She is inexcusable for saying that her limited capacities are to be the measure for all that is knowable. If there be a cause in this universe the effect of which she cannot perceive, that cause may be God, which simple possibility is quite sufficient to upset all she advances."—P. 49, vol. ii.

It now remains to add merely this, that Mr. Brooke has produced a Life of Robertson which will not unworthily compare with Dean Stanley's Life of Arnold, and which, with that, and Ryland's Life of Foster, and the Life of Channing, is likely to be prized as one of the most precious records of genuine manly and godly excellence.

DEAN ALFORD'S "MEDITATIONS."

The volume of "Meditations" before us consists of a series of sermons originally preached in Canterbury Cathedral. As sermons, they have the peculiarity of being without "texts." Each "Meditation" is upon a general subject, and not based on any one passage of Scripture. We believe Dean Alford, in thus deviating from general usage, is simply giving a practical illustration of a publicly-expressed opinion. And for our own part, though strongly in favour of a general ad-

* *Meditations in Advent, on Creation, and on Providence.* By HENRY ALFORD, D.D., Dean of Canterbury. Strahan.

herence to the established practice—as an acknowledgment that the speaker is not to deal out his own private opinions, but to expound reverently the "living" oracles—we yet see no reason why a pastor should be precluded from occasionally stepping aside from the beaten path, and dealing directly and explicitly with any topic which may seem to demand detailed exposition. But such a procedure should, we think, be the exception, not the rule. As for any effect of novelty to result from preaching sermons without texts, we do not suppose that Dean Alford attaches any importance to so puerile a consideration. We are of course familiar with the often-quoted illustration of the medicine-cup with sugared rim, and are not disposed to deny that too many sermons are doses—needing to be sweetened and rendered palatable as best may be. But doing away with the text—sometimes the only part of the service of which we carry away an abiding remembrance—is surely reversing the process. The most insouciant hearer is wont to listen so far: it may be perhaps the only regular occasion of his consulting his Bible at all; while the large number of passages to which attention is thus called forms, of itself, and quite independently of the sermons themselves, an important element in a religious education. Dean Alford's first "Meditation" is headed, "The Lord's Coming." Surely there could have been no loss but rather a gain in prefixing one of those impressive passages in which the "Second Coming" of our Lord is set forth. A few pages on we certainly come to something like a text, "Yet a little while, and 'He that shall come will come.'" What could be more calculated to arouse even the sleeping than such an announcement—ringing forth like the key-note of some stirring melody? But leaving this question, and cheerfully bearing testimony to the fact that these sermons, though not avowedly based on particular passages of Scripture, are yet throughout deeply tintured with the thought and spirit of Scripture,—we must endeavour in a few words to give our readers some notion of their subject-matter.

Perhaps the most strongly marked feature of the volume is the continuous strain of earnest, devout reflection which runs through it. It has evidently been the sincere labour of the preacher to come face to face, and to bring his audience face to face, with the solemn facts of Christian doctrine with which he professes to deal. A first result of such a procedure has been, to use his own words, that these "great familiar truths" and our "ordinary thoughts and habits," so confronted, have appeared "incompatible with each other." Then working from this point, he has sought to show that this incompatibility is apparent rather than real; that the facts of our own hearts and lives, of the history of our race, of the previous conditions of our globe, again and again present us with true points of contact and harmony; that, above all, the true harmony lies in man's heart and thought responding to Christ's truth, not in his framing a creed for himself according to a short-sighted and inadequate reason. Perhaps the most interesting and important of the three sets into which the series of "Meditations" is divided is the second—Creation. Its central thought is, the supremacy and necessary priority in idea of Redemption as compared with Creation; Redemption being no after-thought, but the grand architectonic plan of the Supreme. This is of course no novel view to those who have gone below the surface in theological study; but it is one less frequently presented from the pulpit than its importance seems to warrant, and Dean Alford has, in the pages before us, presented it with both simplicity and eloquence. But the characteristic excellence of these discourses does not lie in the exhibition of any new or striking views of Christian doctrine. What more than anything else stamps them with individuality, is the constant effort shown to bring solemn truths, confessed in our creeds but too often practically ignored, plainly and honestly home to the thought and heart. The second coming of Christ, the Divine act in Creation, God's providential Government of the world and of all of us—all need this quiet, close meditation to enable us in any degree to realise them; and we are confident that there are very many whom Dean Alford, by his mode of dealing with these subjects, will have laid under lasting obligation.

Though this is, as we have said, a thoughtful book, yet the author occasionally says what perhaps a little more thought would have prevented his saying. Thus (p. 74) he speaks unhesitatingly of the time when God was alone "in the universe, and nothing besides: an 'infinite spirit inhabiting eternity.'" What can we know about this? What sure ground have we for asserting that the creative activity was not coeval with His own being? In our opinion, none whatever. Again, speaking of man's free

agency (p. 142), Dean Alford says, "It has ever seemed to me one of the most astonishing 'things, that any thinking persons should be found who deny the free will of man; for of 'all facts open and undeniable, this appears to me the most conspicuous and the least able to be controverted.'" A remembrance of what the author of the "Critique of Pure Reason"—not to speak of Jonathan Edwards and others—has written on the necessarily transcendental character of a belief in such a cause of causes, would have led to a somewhat different mode of expression here. Not that we would be so unreasonable as to look for philosophical precision in a popular address; but when a man speaks on such subjects as these, we have a right to expect that he will do so with due recognition of what the masters of metaphysical thought have established to be either known or unknowable. In quite another region of thought, we cannot help noting the bad taste (to say the least) which has led the author to seek a warning example of the possible degeneracy of races in the recent history of America (p. 173). "Who art thou, O man, that judgest another?" We should have thought that even the impressive career of a Lincoln, with his still more impressive end, would have sufficed to teach Englishmen to view the struggles and sufferings of their American brethren with something more of magnanimity than speaks in Dean Alford's verdict. Was there, then, nothing visible to him in those struggles but "unreasoning ferocity," "the use of names and profession of 'motives sacred to the Christian and the man of peace, in justification of deeds their very 'opposites,' with a 'total disregard of truth 'public and private'?" Not so, we are confident, will history judge. Moreover, Englishmen have little need of clerical voices in high places to call their attention to the follies and iniquities of other nations; what they do need is to learn their own.

The tone of these discourses is that which befits some of the most solemn themes which can engage the mind; and the attitude of the preacher free from all approach to clerical or ecclesiastical assumption. He seems to speak as himself one of the congregation, though called by reason of special function to lead the devout thinkings and aspirations of the rest—or, at least, with only such authority as belongs to him, who has been led, from whatever cause, to bestow upon any given subject a larger amount of attention than others. We have no hesitation in saying that these discourses were every way worthy of the wider publicity which it is now sought to give them by the instrumentality of the press.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS.*

What is a man's duty in the matter of contributing of his substance to religious and charitable objects? Is he under obligation to devote any fixed portion of his property or income to any good purpose beyond that of providing for his own household? Is he at liberty, in the fullest sense of the term to do what he will with his own? Is every man God's steward with respect to all the things he possesses, and responsible, therefore, for the right use of all, this right use implying the setting apart of a due proportion to God's special service? Though the Jew was bound to give a fixed proportion of his increase to God, should not a Christian, who is under the law of liberty, make his offerings when and how and to what amount he pleases? Many questions such as these might be put, and are being put, amongst us very frequently, and very frequently too are answers, more or less full, being given to them. Mr. Boase has entered earnestly upon the consideration of the subject, and gives us here, in a volume of considerable size, his views thereupon. Determining to have sure foundation, if possible, for all he advances, he first quotes *in extenso* many passages of Scripture, not only those directly pertinent, but also many passages less direct in bearing to serve in support of these, to all of which he appends observations. The declarations of Scripture are followed by a treatment of the subject of offerings generally, and the distinction between tithes and offerings is enforced. Mr. Boase then investigates the duty and privilege of paying tithes, and the obligation and blessedness of making offerings, pointing out in each case the best way of fulfilling the obligation, and the personal blessing that follows its observance, as well as the use of the gift in the service of Christ. In a general conclusion, reflections, suggested by the consideration of the subject, on the duty of the Church, collectively and individually, are offered. In an appendix are discussed at great length a large number of objections, difficulties, and inquiries

* *Tithes and Offerings: a Treatise on the Principles, Practice, and Benefits of Devoting Portions of our Substance to the Service of God.* By C. W. BOASE. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

that are apt to arise. Mr. Boase concludes that all who acknowledge God at all are under obligation to pay a tenth part of their increase or income to Him,—that they incur this obligation under the covenant supposed to have been entered into at the Creation by God with Adam, renewed with Adam after the Fall, and again with Noah after the Flood,—that the Jews are under obligations (a), because of this original duty (b), as children of Jacob, who entered into covenant with God at Bethel, and vowed to observe this law, and (c), by the renewal of the law of tithes at Sinai: that if the Jew is thus under obligation, *a fortiori*, the Christian is. This tithe is to be thus appropriated. "With some formality, and before witnesses, probably the Angel and the other ministers should be present in the sacristy, the deacons, as acting in this matter for the clergy of the Church Particular, should first separate the tithe of the Tithes, and present it to the Angel as being one of, and the Symbol of, the ministers of the Church Universal, to be by him sent on their behalf, to the deacons of the Church Universal." The remaining nine-tenths of the tithes are then to be given to the minister or ministers of the Church Particular for their own behoof.

Tithes are distinguished from offerings thus,—tithes are a debt—a recognition of God's lordship and providence—the tenth of yearly increase, and are assigned by God to Christ as his high-priest. Offerings are love gifts—the acknowledgment that God is love—all that a man gives to God in any shape over and above the tithe, and are assigned by God to Jesus as the elder brother of men. The duty and importance of offering voluntary gifts for the service of God are founded on, and illustrated by, the command of the Lord to Moses, Exod. xxv. 1—8. It is maintained that, in addition to the tithes which a man is bound in honesty to pay, love should prompt to the presenting to God of freewill offerings; and that suitable times for making these offerings would be when unusual additions to fortune have been received, or any other blessing that gladdens the heart; and when any member of the family escapes from some imminent danger or special spiritual evil. The very nature of offerings precludes the fixing of any definite amount to which they should rise, or the proportion they should bear to the income of the offerer, but, it is urged, the free gift of love should hardly be less than the tenth demanded by law. Among the purposes or objects to which these offerings should be devoted, we are surprised to find that one, and that the most important, is "State tribute," in other words, the payment of taxes. It is argued that the powers that be are ordained of God, that kings and governments are the servants of God, and are bound to rule in His fear, and that to enable them to do this they must be supported as befits their high estate; therefore all who honour God should render to Caesar what is his due, as a service done to God. Whatever force this pleading may have, we must confess we are not reconciled to the classing of taxes among the voluntary offerings that express our love to God. Of the amount of these offerings, one half is apportioned for the State, whose ministers are exhorted to receive it and deal with it as stewards of God. The remaining half is to be equally divided between the Private Charity Fund and the Church Offering Fund.

Mr. Boase has at least earnestly attempted the presentation, in one view, of the whole teaching of Scripture on this important subject, and has honestly grappled with the many objections and difficulties collected at the end of the volume. The whole question, as indicated by the title of the book, is gone into at great length, but we fear that the fulness, or rather diffuseness, with which every part is treated, and the frequent repetitions, will be a bar to even the readableness of the book.

MILLAIS'S COLLECTED ILLUSTRATIONS.*

It is not merely as one of the most delicious picture-books of the season, but as a work to be treasured with the most precious things of modern art, that we give grateful welcome to a volume of drawings on wood by Mr. Millais. We doubt if there is any other English artist who could similarly bear the searching test of his powers supplied by a collection so extensive and so varied in subject, when brought under the limitations of wood-engraving. The fact that most of these drawings have become familiar already as the chief pictorial illustrations of "Good Words," "Once-a-Week," "Orley Farm," and the illustrated edition of

"Tennyson's Poems," forbids us to dwell, as otherwise we might, on their diversified subjects, the conception of them by the artist, and the main features and the accessories of his handling of them. If it were the moment at which to write carefully of the genius and the performances of Mr. Millais, there is a score or more of these drawings on wood which would claim critical attention scarcely less than the finished pictures which have been the delight of such lovers of art as bring to their study of pictures something of insight, knowledge, and capability of sympathy, rather than the conventional feeling and traditional precepts of academies and connoisseurs.

This rich and truly representative collection of the works of the artist contains no less than eighty designs; of which only six are gathered from other publications than those already named; while two are distinguished as being hitherto unpublished. These two have for their titles "Watching," and "Pick-a-pack,"—the former a most pathetically suggestive female figure seated on the stairs outside a chamber-door; the other a laughing child borne cheerfully and strappingly on its mother's back. We had scarcely realised to ourselves, in looking at their successive numbers, how wealthy the series we have named have been in genuine works of art, until confronted with their gems in this collected form.

We have spoken of the titles of drawings to which we have referred; but we must add that there are no such indications of subject on the several pages of the volume. Each design is left to speak for itself; and in almost every instance—and this is Mr. Millais's highest praise—the idea and sentiment may be clearly gathered from the scene, the figures, and the details. This is not always the case,—is not even the case with every one of the illustrations of Tennyson. And we cannot hesitate to express the opinion that a few are commonplace and uninteresting, and quite unworthy to be included in such a collection. "Hilary's Resolution," "Our Sister Grizel," "The Head of Bran," "Farewell," "Footsteps in the Corridor," and others very like them, are nothing at all without the literary matter to which they belong, and not much even then; while we class "The Miller's Daughter," "Give me one kiss," "The Grandmother's Apology," and "Preaching Down a Daughter's Heart," as the feeblest things in the book, regarded relatively either to the text they illustrate or the artist's renderings of the same poet in other instances. There are two illustrations of the parables, "The Unjust Judge," and "The Ten Virgins," the former most forcible and suggestive, the latter quite inappropriate and inexpressive. "The Finding of Moses" is perhaps the most truthful and perfectly contenting drawing in all the series.

Whatever we thus allege as to particular designs that have wholly delighted or partly disappointed us, it has still to be earnestly protested by us that this is one of the few similar works that we are quite sure we shall never consent to part with, and shall find always new. It may be well to add that it is a thin handsome quarto, of largest size, and that the subjects and their sources are given in a prefatory list of the contents.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Pleasures of Memory. By SAMUEL ROGERS. (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.) In this edition of Rogers's poem we have a book which is every way fitted for the drawing-room table. It is printed on thick toned paper, and enclosed in an ornamental binding of cloth boards. But the most interesting feature in its production is the new art which has been employed in the illustrations of the volume, of which there are fifteen. The process is thus briefly explained in the preface, "The drawing is made with an etching needle or any suitable point, upon a glass plate spread with collodion. It is then photographed upon a prepared surface of wax, and from this surface an electrotpe is formed in relief which is printed with the type. By these means the artist's own work is preserved; and though it may be impossible for this process to rival the delicacy of a good engraving upon wood, yet it can lay claim to an accurate fidelity which can only be equalled by etchings upon copper." The drawings of one of the artists, Mr. E. M. Wimperis, would lead us to think that he has had some experience in the process. They are hardly distinguishable at first sight from a first-class engraving.

Praying and Working. By W. FLEMING STEVENSON. Pocket edition. (A. Strahan.) We need no more than state that this excellent work, which contains sketches of the life and work of those men of prayer and faith, Falk, Wichern, Flieckner, Gossner, and Harms, is here produced in a cheap form, accessible to all readers.

Missionary Enterprises. Shilling Edition. (J. Snow). The issue of this wonderful narrative as a shilling book is almost as remarkable an event in the annals of cheap

literature as the production of the celebrated "Globe" edition of Shakespeare. "Missionary Enterprises" has already been through more than fifty large editions, and if Foreign Missions continue to excite as much interest in the minds of the rising and future generations as they have in those of the present, it will deservedly reach as many more within the same space of time.

GIFT BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

Palastine for the Young. By the Rev. ANDREW A. BONAR. (Religious Tract Society.) This book seems to be the result of a very thorough study of the physical geography of the Holy Land, in connection with its Biblical history. The works of the first authorities and of the most recent travellers seem to have been alike brought under contribution. Something more of coherent interest it might perhaps be possible to attain to; but, at any rate, the young student will never seek in vain in these pages for the facts he needs to know, or for the wood-pictures that give the suitable framing to historic narratives and intensify the power of religious associations. The plan of the book is to give account of the general scenery and natural phenomena of "the land at large"; then, to describe its mountains and hills, its rocks and caves, its plains and valleys, its rivers and lakes; and, afterwards, to traverse the provinces of each tribe separately, and to describe its cities, towns, and villages. There is a capital appendix on "the nations and divisions of the land," and another on its "vegetable productions according to the seasons." We were just a little amused that the book should open with Robert the Bruce; and sorry to find it close with the expectation of the restoration of the Jews,—but on the latter subject the author states distinctly that he expresses only personal opinion. The Tract Society is not committed to that delusive but inveterate hope, in which, as it seems to us, the old false confidence of a temporal Messiah perpetuates itself in yearnings for a temporal kingdom. We almost wish, however, that on such a subject the Tract Society had not permitted one of its writers to express even a personal opinion, which so many of its truest friends must regard as a shallow misreading of the purpose of the calling of Israel, and a melancholy blindness to the whole genius of the Christian dispensation. We have used nearly as many words in reprobation, as the author has bestowed on the intimation of his opinion; but profound conviction would not permit us to employ any fewer or less emphatic. With this sole drawback, we thoroughly enjoy and highly value the book; and can commend it warmly, as the best on its subject, and for the special use of the young, that we have any knowledge of. It is profusely and beautifully illustrated,—a very model, in this respect, of the wise use of all the resources which are available for the production of a perfect volume.

Beeton's Annual. A Book for the Young. (London: F. Warne and Co.) Well done, Mr. S. O. Beeton! As joint-editor of this volume with the well-known naturalist, the Rev. J. G. Wood, he commences it with a few pages on "our noble selves," the closing paragraphs of which contain sentences we are glad to quote as very truly descriptive of the great and successful effort he has made to provide for our young people an Annual that shall more than revive the glorious attraction of the Peter Parley of former days, whose name has since been so much dishonoured by the publications palmed off on the unsuspecting by its aid. He justly prides himself on the contributors who have given character to his volume; and speaks of "the dash of Captain Mayne Reid, facile princeps of writers for boys; the vivid imagination of Mr. James Greenwood, author of 'Reuben Davidger'; the easy, happy flow of Mr. Thomas Hood, 'of virtuous father, virtuous son'; the unwearied research of Mr. Davenport Adams; the grand simplicity of Francis Derriek, 'author of that successful effort, the 'Kiddle-a-Wink'; the peculiar knowledge of the Army Chaplain, his 'torian of the Victoria Cross Heroes; the interesting sketches of Captain Drayson,'—and to these we might add Mrs. Stowe, Archdeacon Smith, Captain Verelst, and others, who 'deserve well' the young reader's gratitude. Mr. Beeton says—and we take his word for it—for who can remember all he ever read, or all the pictures he ever saw?—that "not a line, written or engraved, has been employed before"; and that "what ever is here is original, word and picture." He hopes thus to prove that "the day is gone by for ramped-up conglomerations of used articles and aged woodcuts"; and confidently expects that his new broom will sweep clean. Let us frankly say that we do not thoroughly like all the contents; and the general impression of the book is of the pervadingness of the sensational; but it would be unjust to expect an "annual" book specially prepared for the "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" to be much more serious than is this, which, let us say includes articles on Wasps, Tournaments, and Chivalry, sketches of Jamaica, and several scenes of veritable travel. The illustrations on wood are by many artists, including Doré, Keyl, Morten, Weir, Zwecker, &c., but not all equally well executed; and the chromo-prints will have attractiveness enough to the eyes of the more juvenile readers, even if big boys have taste and knowledge enough to think meanly of them.

Tales and Stories. Selected by MARY RUSSELL MITFORD. (F. Warne and Co.) It was one of the small

* *Millais's Illustrations.* A Collection of Drawings on Wood. By JOHN EVERETT MILLAIS, R.A. Alexander Strahan.)

literary efforts of the late delightful author of "Our Village," to collect and edit these stories for the amusement of the children of some twenty years ago or more. We are reminded by the publisher that "they obtained great popularity"; and as now gathered into a single volume, and carefully revised, they may well be expected to be attractive to the young readers of a new generation. A change, however, has passed over the manner and spirit of books for the young, since Miss Edgeworth, and Mrs. Trimmer, and Mrs. Sherwood, and Miss Mitford wrote; and not altogether is that change for the better. Some of the best writers of the last ten or fifteen years have erred in being too fast and dashing and romantic; and we need more quietude and repose, and truth to commonest life, in books for our children, especially for our boys. We are never sorry to see some of the good old stories that go along softly and decorously, revived at the present time; although we know boys fully committed to such heresies as, that "Sandford and Merton" is dreadfully stupid, and "Historical Tales of Illustrious British Children" uncommonly dull, and who ask, "What sort of children, 'I wonder, were our fathers and mothers?' and so on; and we, therefore, have much reason to fear that our dear old friend of "Three Mile Cross," will fail to gain ears as readily for her story-tellers as she did "once upon a time." Let all young people know, however, that the lady who was the collector of these stories was one of the heartiest, freest, most winningly lovable ladies that ever drew boys and girls to her side; as also their parents know her to have been one of the purest-souled and most genial writers of prose pastorals, in any age of our literature; and then, it may be, this book will be taken up with a willingness to like it, and the result of a little persistent reading will surely be that it is liked immensely. It has numerous pleasing coloured pictures suited to the age of the children for whom it is intended.

The Word: Walks from Eden. By the Author of "The Wide, Wide World." (London: James Nisbet and Co.) Right away in the woods, far from any signs of civilised life, in a little woodland cottage, dwelt, during the autumn months, a happy family who had learned the secret of extracting all the delight the free forest could yield, and superadding to this the constant study of God's Book. Uncle Sam, who had travelled almost all over the world, and used well his eyes and ears wherever he went, four nephews and nieces, one of the latter being the annalist of the group, and a wise grandmother, compose the family. When each day's work was done, the family used generally to assemble in a favourite nook under sheltering trees, and, having enjoyed their rustic fare, enter into lively and well-sustained conversation upon the great facts recorded in the early books of the Bible, their first conversation, in this volume, being about the Garden of Eden, and the last about Abraham's children; another volume on the Old Testament, and one on the life of Christ are likely to follow. The conversations are interesting, instructive, and improving, each member of the group contributes his quota, but Uncle Sam is the great oracle, and from his varied stores of oriental lore, his large acquaintance with the latest researches of travellers and men of science, and, above all, his complete knowledge of Scripture, he abundantly illustrates each subject of discourse, and shows how all knowledge makes the more manifest the exceedingly glory of the Book of God. A chief aim of this book is "to show how from the beginning the various arrangements of Providence converged towards Him who is the centre of the whole system of Providence—the way, the truth, and the life"—Him, the Word." This would be a capital family book for Christmas evenings, with the Bible and suitable maps lying ready at hand for reference. It contains several pretty wood engravings.

The Children of Cloverly. By the Author of "Enoch Roden's Training," "Fern's Hollow," &c. (London: the Religious Tract Society.) Ben and Annie, whose mother is dead, and whose father, Captain Bakewell, is an officer in the army of the North, in the recent American war, are sent by him from their pleasant rural home on the banks of Lake Huron to Old England, to stay with their cousins till the war is over. They find their new home in a valley among the hills, where they are received with an English welcome. For some time the boy frets and chafes at any real or supposed disrespect to him and his American ways, and solaces himself with whistling "Hail Columbia." But little Annie wins all hearts; she is a sweet creature, whose mother has taught her ever to try to be as the sister of Jesus, and to adopt as her motto, "The will of the Lord be done." The memory of her mother is never dimmed, and she realises that "Heaven moves about us in our infancy," and in our following years. She is a sunbeam ever pure and bright, carrying peace and love wherever she goes. She softens, and wins to generous deeds, a rich old lady, whose heart had been estranged from her kind all her days; and the rough miners of Cloverly, when their labours are arrested till a new shaft can be sunk, become her pupils, and learn to reverence her as an angel of God. The description of a snow storm among the hills, and its sad consequences, adds much to the interest of this very pretty story. We hope many of our young folks will become acquainted with these Cloverly children.

Stories Told to a Child. By the Author of "Studies for Stories." (A. Strahan.) This is a misleading title.

Although it may be the fact that the stories contained in the book were told to a child, they must have been told to one of more than ordinary powers of comprehension if they were thoroughly understood and appreciated. But here let our fault-finding end; for a collection of more delightful stories for intelligent boys and girls, aye, and even for older readers, is rarely to be met with. There is a moral in all—that must be confessed at once; but it is so skilfully woven into the stories, and not blurted out at the end, that an essential part of the enjoyment of them is due to the artless and unostentatious manner in which the narrator of these little stories enlists our sympathies on behalf of everything that is noble, and honest, and healthful. It is very prettily "got up," and eminently suitable for a Christmas gift to the young.

Featherland, or How the Birds Lived at Greenlawn. By GEORGE MANVILLE FENN. (Griffith and Farran.) Mr. Fenn tells a number of very amusing stories about Messrs. Yellowbill, Spottleover, Speckleins, Shoutnight, Ogrebones, &c. &c., which will amazingly delight the little folks. There is a smartness about the conversations carried on between these and other members of the feathered and creeping tribes, which, if we mistake not, will produce aching sides. Here's a specimen, taken at random—a conversation between a Water Wagtail and a Toad—"Get out," said the bird, wagging "his tail with fury, for he was very proud of his genteel appearance, 'Get out, you old dusty dab, or I'll kick you. I feel quite disgusted with your appearance. 'What are you doing here?' 'Doing,' said the other, 'rubbing the tears out of his eyes, 'Doing, why getting my living the same way as you do—fly-catching.' 'Fly-catching,' said the other, with a sneer, 'How can you catch flies? why you can't run a bit. I suppose you wait till they tumble into your mouth, don't you? Who are you? what's your name?' 'My name,' said the other, 'Well, you're not very civil, but I don't mind telling you. My name is Toad, Brown Toad, and I'd a great deal rather be such an ugly fellow as you call me than a weazen, skinny wind-beater like you. How do I catch flies? why so, my boy, that's how I catch them,' and just then the toad crept to within two or three inches of a great fly that had settled upon a leaf, darted out his long tongue, which stuck to the fly, and was drawn into the toad's great mouth in an instant, 'That's the way I catch flies, and a capital way too, isn't it?' 'Hum,' said the Wagtail, rather astonished at the ease with which the fly was caught, 'It wasn't so bad, certainly; but you know you're precious ugly. Why, you've no waist.' 'Waste,' said the Toad, 'No, there's no waste about me, it's all useful what there is of me.' 'Ugh, you stupid,' said the other, 'I mean waist over your hips where you ought to wear a belt or sash.' . . . 'But you can't fly,' said the Wagtail, vainly, 'I can.' 'Pooh! I know,' said the toad, 'And you can't swim, I can.' 'But you can't run and catch flies,' said the other, getting cross. 'No, but I can sit down and catch them,' said the toad, 'and that's easier,' &c., &c. It will be seen by this quotation that the book is not without information, although conveyed in a peculiar way. An additional charm is presented in the very beautiful full-page engravings which illustrate the book.

Ronald's Reason; or, the Little Cripple. By Mrs. S. C. HALL. (London: Seeleys.) It brings us back to our old boyish days to see Mrs. Hall's name on the title-page of a book for children; and our enjoyment of her last book has been equal to our enjoyment of her first. This is a tale of a crippled boy and his friend. The friend was Ronald, who voluntarily went without all boys' sweets, fruit, and playthings, in order to save up money sufficient to pay the medical expenses for the restoration to his full stature of his poor crippled friend. By doing this he exposed himself to the taunts of all his schoolfellows, who stigmatised him a mean and stingy little wretch. The truth at last came out, and practical justice was done by the schoolboys in their own boisterous fashion. The tale is admirably told and very finely illustrated. It is one of the "Children's Friend" series.

Sybil and her Live Snowball. By the Author of "Dick and his Donkey." (London: Seeleys.) Another of the "Children's Friend" series. We do not remember "Dick and his Donkey," but we shall not forget "Sybil and her Snowball." This book would probably be called the adventures of a little girl and her kitten; we prefer to call it the adventures of a kitten and her little girl, for the kitten is certainly mistress. In the course of the joint lives of the two, the kitten becomes lost, and a very respectable clergyman spiritualises the trial to the little girl, who is overwhelmed with grief. The line which divides devotion from profanity has, it appears to us, been crossed in this instance. We don't believe in a child being talked to about the temporary loss of her kitten in nearly the same manner as an adult Christian would be talked to about the loss of his wife or daughter. This is the blot of the tale, which otherwise is skilfully written, and, as we have proved, very interesting to child-folk.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Elijah, a Poem (Hatchard and Co.) The Iliad of Homer (Longman). Naomi, or the Last Days of Jerusalem, New Edition (Virtue Brothers). Songs, Sacred and Devotional;

The Adventures of Don Quixote de la Mancha, Daisiel's Edition; Tales and Stories; Sundays at Encombe (F. Warne and Co.). A History of the Gipsies (S. Low and Co.). The Australian Babes in the Wood; Mamma's Morning Gossips (Griffith and Farran). Ecce Homo (Macmillan and Co.). Palestine for the Young; Alypius of Tagaste; The Children of Cloverley (Religious Tract Society). Flemish Relics; Marmion; The Ruined Abbeys of Yorkshire; The Ruined Abbeys of the Border; Photographic Portraits of Men of Eminence in Literature, Science, and Art (A. W. Bennett). The Temple and the Sepulchre (Longman and Co.). God's Week of Work; The Augustine Hymn-book (F. Pitman). A Walk through the Corn-fields; The Last Warning Cry; The Word, Walks from Eden; Little Katy and Jolly Jim (Nisbet and Co.). Hinton's Theological Works, Vol. VII. (Houlston and Wright). Idylls of the Hearth (Aylott and Son). Wayside Pillars (Seeley and Co.). The Christian Witness and the Christian Penny Magazine Volumes for 1865; A Narrative of Missionary Enterprises in the South Sea Islands (John Snow). A Walk from London to Land's End and Back (S. Low, Son, and Co.). On the Membership of the Christian Church and the Purity of her Communion (Nisbet and Co.). Christian Finance (E. Stock). The Mystical Beast of the Revelation (Bagster and Sons). Antopædia; or, Instructions on Personal Education (J. Smith). The Christian Monitor (S. W. Partridge). Shadows of the Old Booksellers; Dr. Webster's Complete Dictionary of the English Language, Part XII.; Mehmet the Kurd (Bell and Daldy). The Conversion of the Northern Nations, Boyle Lectures, 1865 (Longmans). Science Gossip Volume for 1865 (Hardwicke). Millais's Collected Illustrations (A. Strahan). Rescued from Egypt; Fairy Know-a-Bit; Nursery Rhymes and Songs (T. Nelson and Sons). Student's Old Testament History (J. Murray). The Friend (Bell and Daldy). The Path on Earth to the Gate of Heaven (F. Warne and Co.). The Heavenly Father (Macmillan and Co.). Lyric Fancies (Moxon and Co.). The Nature and Cultivation of Coffee; The Gentle Life, Second Series (S. Low and Co.). Sermons and Expositions by the late John Robertson, D.D.; Praying and Working; Stories Told to a Child (A. Strahan). Doctor Kemp, Two Vols.; The Mother's Friend Volume for 1865 (Jackson, Walford, and Co.). Constitutionalism of the Future (A. and C. Black). The Swiss Family Robinson; The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe; Winning Words; Stories of my Childhood; Gasper; The Children's Bread (Gall and Inglis).

Miscellaneous News.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.—Number of patients for the week ending 16th Dec., 1,017, of which 192 were new cases.

There is a rumour, which, however, does not appear to be supported by any very trustworthy authority, that Earl Russell proposed to offer Mr. Stansfeld a Junior Lordship of the Admiralty, but that Lord Clarendon objected that the appointment would not be agreeable to the Emperor Napoleon. Sir Francis Baring is to be raised to the peerage under the title of Lord Northbrook. Sir John Romilly, Master of the Rolls, will also be elevated to the House of Lords. His title will be Lord Romilly.

DEWSBURY A PARLIAMENTARY BOROUGH.—On Tuesday, at the close of the meeting of the Dewsbury Town Council, the Mayor (R. H. Ellis, Esq.) announced that he had an important communication to make. It was the intention of Government to introduce a Reform Bill in the coming session of Parliament, and he had reason to believe, from information he had been placed in possession of, that when the bill was brought in it would be found that it was proposed to make Dewsbury a Parliamentary borough.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.—The official returns issued by the Veterinary Department of the Privy Council show that the cattle plague continues to spread with fearful rapidity. The total number of cases returned during the week ending December 9, was 5,356, being 1,526 in excess of the preceding week. In Yorkshire the number of cases had risen from 938 to 1,037, and in Scotland from 1,181 to 1,881. There was a slight decrease in the South-Eastern and West Midland counties. The total number of cases reported from the commencement of the disease is 47,199, of which 11,554 were killed, 24,513 died, and 3,771 recovered. On Thursday an influential deputation from the Royal Agricultural Society, representing, it is said, as many as a hundred Farmers' Clubs, waited upon the Home Secretary, and recommended the Government to put a summary stop to fairs and markets altogether; but that, if public opinion was not yet ripe for so decisive an edict, at least the movement of cattle from one market to another market should be absolutely forbidden. One of the members declared the readiness of farmers to submit to the prohibition even on their own farms; and when this seemed incredible, and a show of hands was taken in the Minister's presence, it was found that a majority of fifty to three of this professional deputation desired to see the transit of cattle stopped from one part of a farm to another, if any public highway had to be traversed in the passage. Sir George Grey promised to consider the proposal, and consult his colleagues, but declined to hold out any hope that Government would further interfere with the action of the local authorities.

EXPLORATION IN MADAGASCAR.—At the last fortnightly meeting of the Royal Geographical Society a paper, "On Ankova, the Central Province of Madagascar, and on the Royal or Sacred Cities," was read by the Rev. W. Ellis. The author informed the meeting that he had undertaken his recent journey to Madagascar at the invitation of King Radama, towards the end of 1861, and that during his excursions in the interior in search of limestone for building, and for other objects, he had travelled over a large part of

the province of Ankova. It is the most important of the twenty-two provinces into which the island is divided, from being the country of the Hovas or dominant race, and is 150 miles in length, by nearly 100 in breadth. The country is hilly or mountainous, but the elevations rise singly or in masses, rather than form continuous chains. Mount Ankaratra, in the south-west of Ankova, is one of the highest mountains in the island, being about 13,000 feet above the level of the sea. It had not yet been ascended by a European, and probably not by the natives, although they stated that in the cold season snow lay in the hollows near the summit. Between the isolated hills or mountain masses lay fertile valleys or level plains, some of them several miles in extent. The province is well watered, and the rivers, though not large, seldom fail through the long droughts of summer. The author, after enumerating the streams, rivers, and lakes of Ankova, proceeded to describe the forests, which he said bordered the province on the three sides, and supplied it with abundance of valuable timber, but left the central district itself almost destitute of trees. Flowering euphorbias and fruit-trees had, however, been introduced, and grew luxuriantly. Horned cattle are numerous and increasing; and it is singular fact that, whilst the domestic ox is the humped Indian species, the vast herds of wild cattle are all of the straight-backed kind. The sacred cities of Ankova are twelve in number; they derive their sanctity from having been the birth-places, abodes, or burial-places of their monarchs. Europeans are forbidden to enter them; and although some of them are places of large size, they have not yet been laid down on our maps. The belief in the influence of the spirits of the ancestors of their monarchs is one of the chief features of the Malagash religion; it enters into all their most important ceremonies, and influences the actions and policy of royalty. The President informed the meeting that Mr. Ellis had amassed, during his late visit, considerable materials for the rectification and completion of our maps of the interior of Madagascar. He was sure the meeting would return him their most hearty thanks, and would bear in mind that, although Mr. Ellis had not mentioned the subject, it was to the body of missionaries to which he belonged that Madagascar owed a written language, an instrument of enlightenment which could not fail to be productive of good.

Gleanings.

The private fortune left by King Leopold is estimated at 3,200,000*l.* sterling.

A memorial to Lord Palmerston is to be erected in Southampton.

Mr. Murray is about to publish a new work by Sir Bulwer Lytton, to be called, "The Lost Tales of Milton."

It is said to be the intention of the Government to transfer the Fenian convicts from Dublin to Dartmoor, or some other convict depot in England.

The yearly volumes of the *British Workman* and the *Band of Hope Review* have been issued in very effective illuminated covers.

The Edinburgh papers state that Miss Longworth has lodged a notice of motion for a new trial of her case against the *Saturday Review*.

Nearly 700*l.* has already been subscribed to the fund for erecting a church as a memorial of the late Canon Stowell.

On the 28th ult., Mrs. Morfe, of Claydon, completed her 105th year. The old lady is in full possession of her faculties.—*Bury and Norwich Post*.

At a meeting held in Birmingham lately, the Mayor in the chair, it was resolved to establish a gymnasium on a large scale in the town.

Cambridge House, the residence of the late Premier has been taken by the Naval and Military Club for 3,000*l.* a year. This is 500*l.* a year more than Lord Palmerston paid.

The Metropolitan main drainage system is complete with the exception of the short link of low level sewer which is to run under the Thames Embankment and Embankment Railway.

The City authorities are, it is stated, about to apply for powers to enable them to construct foot-bridges over the street-crossings, and to enable them more effectually to regulate the traffic.—*Weekly Paper*.

Mr. Stock announces a new work by the Rev. J. Pulsford; "Kings of Society, or, Leaders of Social, Intellectual, and Religious Progress," by the Rev. W. Anderson, author of "Self-made Men;" and "Jehovah's Jewels," by Dr. Leechman, author of "An Introduction to Logic."

The editor of a French paper, in speaking of the dedication of a new cemetery at Lyons, says that "M. Gascoigne had the pleasure of being the first individual who was buried in this delightful retreat."

ENCOURAGING TO PATRONS.—Lord William Lennox relates the following incident as having occurred at Lord Shaftesbury's examination of a girl's school:—Just as the noble Lord was about to take his leave, he addressed a girl somewhat older than the rest, and among other things inquired, "Who made your body?" "Please, my Lord," responded the unsophisticated girl, "Betsy Jones made my body, but I made the

skirt myself." Another charity scholar, under examination in the Psalms, was asked, "What is the pestilence that walketh in darkness?" "Please, Sir, bugs."

AMUSING SIMPLICITY.—Some days ago, at one of the Dumfries fairs, a young woman, too obviously "from the country," was seen standing with a very perplexed air at the pillar letter-box in Nith-place, in front of the Mechanics' Institution. She was observed to knock several times on the top of the iron pillar, but obtaining no response, she passed round to the opposite side, and raising the cover of the slit in which letters are placed, she applied her mouth to the aperture, and called out, loud enough for the amazed bystanders to hear, "Can ye let me hae a postage-stamp?"—*Caledonian Mercury*.

A "POETICAL" HORSE.—A gentleman travelling with his wife in Ireland, came one day, in the course of his rambles, to the town of Wicklow. On quitting the train he was besieged by a multitude of carmen, eagerly begging for the honour of his patronage. Each urged his own suit to the utmost, one man observing, "Och, shure and faith, your honour, take my car, for the horse is the most poetical of 'em all." Struck with the peculiarity of the inducement, the gentleman engaged him. In due time the car was loaded, gentleman, wife, luggage, and Paddy safely mounted. Soon after starting, the gentleman observed that the horse was very lame, and that the rate of progress was, to say the least of it, not all that could be desired. After a few minutes' silence, he turned to the driver, and said, "Now, Paddy, why did you say your horse was the most poetical of them all?" "Och, shure and faith, your honour, and don't he go much more in *imagination* than in *reality*?"

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The stock markets have again been without animation. The drain of gold for the continent and other foreign parts has yet not been replaced by arrivals, although a considerable quantity is expected within a few days. Consols, which closed last week at 87 to $\frac{1}{2}$ for money, left off to-day at $87\frac{1}{2}$ for money, and $87\frac{1}{2}$ for the account.

Proposals have been issued by the Imperial Ottoman Bank for a new 6 per cent. Ottoman loan, to be issued at the price of 96 per cent., which reduces the bonds (nominally 20*l.* each) to about 13*l.*, taking into account discount allowed on prepayments, &c. The amount required is 6,000,000*l.*, and it is to be repayable at par in 21 years by half-yearly drawings. The subscription list is to be opened here and at Paris on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd instant.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 13.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£27,837,690	Government Debt ..	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,634,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion ..	13,237,600
	£27,837,690		£27,837,690

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital ..	£4,558,000	Government Securities ..	29,841,100
Reserve ..	3,321,496	Other Securities ..	21,015,630
Public Deposits ..	7,081,336	Notes ..	7,331,210
Other Deposits ..	14,254,832	Gold & Silver Coins ..	783,713
Seven Day and other Bills ..	458,969		
	£39,674,633		£39,674,633

Dec. 14, 1865.

W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—When the weather is wet, the winds chilling, and the temperature changeable, these excellent remedies should always be at hand; by their means any defective action can be at once rectified, any irregular function can be corrected, without delay. The ointment well rubbed upon the chest and throat will remove hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, relaxed uvula, and enlarged tonsils, and without pain or inconvenience will check incipient inflammations in the air passages and prevent the large accumulation of phlegm, alike distressing to the patient and bystander. The influenza, so fatal to the aged when it ravages the town and devastates the country, is safely and certainly relieved by the persevering inunction of this cooling and purifying ointment.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

PRICE.—November 22, at Brighton, the wife of the Rev. R. Vaughan Price, M.A., LL.B., of a son.

WILKES.—November 24, at 16, Penn-road Villas, Holloway, N., the wife of the Rev. Mark Wilkes, of a daughter.

ORCHARD.—December 2, at Tamworth-place, Redland road, Bristol, the wife of Mr. Edwin J. Orchard, of twin daughters.

MARRIAGES.

MASON-MARTIN.—December 3, at West-end Congregational Chapel, Southport, by the Rev. J. Chatter, Mr. John William Mason, to Eleanor, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Martin, of Ormskirk.

PECK-HALL.—December 5, at the Independent chapel, Kelvedon, by the Rev. J. Jennings, assisted by the Rev. J. Hunt Cooke, of Southsea, William Peck, Esq., of Kelvedon, formerly of Ceylon, to Emily, widow of the late Rev. C. J. Hall, of the Baptist Mission, China.

WOODHOUSE-WEBSTER.—December 7, at the London-road Congregational Chapel, Derby, by the Rev. H. Ollard, Mr. Arthur Woodhouse, of Derby, to Miss Mary Rachel Webster.

MOORE-MARSHALL.—December 7, at the Independent chapel, Morley, by the Rev. Mr. James, Mr. Henry Moore, ironmonger, to Annie Eliza, only daughter of Mr. William Marshall, of Morley, near Leeds.

MOORE-FERRAND.—December 8, at Halfhill Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. J. Makepeace, Foster Moore, Esq., M.D., to Miss Martha Ann Ferrand, both of Bradford.

WATTS-VEAR.—December 8, at the Kingsfield Congregational Church, Southampton, by the Rev. Thomas Simons, the Rev. N. Watts, to Caroline, second daughter of Mr. James Vear, of Southampton.

HODGKINSON-PIKE.—December 10, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. Edwin Webster, Mr. James Hodgkinson, of Wigan, to Miss Amanda Pike, of Westleigh.

LODGE-RICHARDSON.—December 12, at the Baptist chapel, Sheffield-road, Barnsley, by the Rev. J. Compston, Mr. George Lodge, to Miss Rebecca Richardson, both of Barnsley.

NAYLOR-CRAGG.—December 12, at the Independent chapel, High Harrogate, Jacob Naylor, Esq., of Camp-road, Leeds, to Mary, second daughter of the Rev. George Cragg, of the former place.

EATON-NEAL.—December 13, at the Independent chapel, Burton-upon-Trent, by the Rev. T. Mays, of Ashby, Mr. John Eaton, of Crews, to Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. Frederick Neal, of Burton-upon-Trent.

STEINSON-THOMPSON.—December 13, at the Independent chapel, Devizes, Mr. Robert H. Stinson, H.M.'s inland Revenue, to Alice Mary, fifth daughter of Mr. Stephen Thompson.

COCKER-FOSTER.—December 14, at Salem Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. William Hodswell, Edwin Emanuel, second son of the late Mr. E. E. Cocker, of Sheffield, to Mary Jane, second daughter of Mr. M. Foster, of Leeds.

STOTT-KNOWLES.—December 14, at the Independent chapel, Gomersal, near Leeds, by the Rev. J. A. Savage, the Rev. William Stott, of Abbey-road Chapel, St. John's Wood, London, to Ann, eldest daughter of Thomas Knowles, Esq., machine maker, of the former place. No cards.

JONES-READ.—December 15, at Hanover Chapel, Peckham, by the Rev. F. Stephens, of Croydon, John James Jones, L.S.A., second son of James Jones, Esq., C.E., county Louth, to Ellen, third daughter of John Read, Esq., of Queen's-road, Peckham, S.E.

BATTYE-COLDWELL.—December 16, at the Independent chapel, Holmforth, by the Rev. J. Boyce, Mr. Giles Battye, of Holmforth, to Miss Mary Coldwell, of Booth House.

DEATHS.

HOMER.—December 7, at 13, Lanadowne-crescent, Glasgow, the residence of her son-in-law, the Rev. J. Eadie, D.D., LL.D., Margaret, wife of Robert Homer, Esq., solicitor, Berwick-on-Tweed, and eldest daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Waugh, D.D.

STRATTEN.—December 11, at Hull, in her seventy-third year, Mary, relict of the late Rev. Thomas Stratten.

THOMAS.—December 11, Hugh William, infant son of the Rev. H. E. Thomas, 14, Seymour-street, Higher Tramsers, Birkenhead.

THOMPSON.—In his eighty-first year, Thomas Thompson, Esq., of Prior Park, Bath.

BAINES.—December 13, at Hallaton, Leicestershire, William, son of Mr. Charles Baines, in his eighteenth year.

WOOD.—December 13, aged six months, Louis Martin, youngest son of Mr. George Wood, jun., High Bank, Bowdon.

HENDERSON.—December 15, at Lydney, Gloucestershire, universally esteemed and regretted, Mr. John Henderson, aged 67.

CLARKE.—December 17, at 3, Montgomery-terrace, Cardiff, the wife of Mr. W. C. Clarke, of a son.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 18.

The supply of wheat from Essex and Kent this morning was moderate; there was no improvement in the condition, and it met a slow sale, at about the rates of last week. There has been a fair attendance of buyers to-day, and foreign wheat realises the quotations of Monday last. Fine malting barley maintains its value, but with large supplies of secondary sorts; these, as well as other descriptions, must be quoted rather cheaper. Beans and peas 1*s.* per qr. lower. The arrival of oats during the last week was very large, and this following quickly upon a large supply has rendered the trade slow for this article; prices to-day being about the same as last Monday.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red, old ..	44 to 50	
Do ditto new ..	56 45	
White, old ..	52 58	
Do new ..	42 50	
Foreign red ..	42 48	
Do white ..	43 58	
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	33 37	
Chevalier ..	38 40	
Distilling ..	29 33	
Foreign ..	21 25	
MALT—		
Pale ..	54 67	
Chevalier ..	64 68	
Brown ..	43 53	
BEANS—		
Tick ..	39 42	
Harrow ..	43 45	
Small ..	44 50	
Egyptian ..	38 42	
PEAS—		
Gray ..	36 to 38	
Maple ..	37 40	
White ..	39 43	
Boilers ..	40 43	
Foreign, white ..	36 43	
RYE ..	36 33	
OATS—		
English feed ..	20 23	
Do potatoes ..	25 20	
Scotch feed ..	22 26	
Do potatoes ..	25 29	
Irish black ..	19 24	
Do white ..	20 25	
Foreign feed ..	21 25	
FLOUR—		
Town made ..	43 46	
Country Marks ..	32 37	
Norfolk & Suffolk ..	32 34	

BREAD.—LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 16.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7d to 8d.; household ditto, 5d. to 6d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Dec. 13.—The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 18,627 head. In the corresponding week in 1864 we received 10,361; in 1863, 6,793; in 1862, 3,767; in 1861, 3,941; in 1860, 3,456; and in 1859, 3,374 head. There was a moderate supply of foreign beasts on sale here to-day. The show of sheep was large; but the general quality of the stock was only middling. Sales progressed heavily, on lower terms. Considering that the great market was held here on Monday last, the number of English beasts exhibited here to day was large, and in prime condition. All breeds were very dull, and 2*d.* per stone lower than last week, and at which a demand was not effected. The top figures for Scots and crosses were 5*s.* to 5*s.* 2*d.* per stone. The arrivals of beasts from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire comprised 2,000 shorthorns, &c.; from Norfolk, 200 Scots, &c.; from other parts of England, 1,300 various breeds; from Scotland, 500 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland 300 oxen and heifers. There was a full average

number of sheep in the pens in, generally speaking, middling condition. Good and prime breeds moved off slowly, at 2s. per 8lb. less money. Inferior breeds sold at reduced, but irregular, quotations. We have to report a dull sale for calves—the supply of which was limited—on easier terms. The top price was 6s. per 8lb. We had a full supply of pigs on offer. The demand was very inactive, on easier terms. Lord Spencer's ox, which took a prize in the Agricultural Hall, was exhibited by Mr. Duckworth. The price demanded for it was 50l. Messrs. Lintoll and son had on sale some of the Duke of Richmond's sheep originally forwarded for show at the cattle yard.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.			
Inf. coarse beasts	8	4 to 3	8	Prime Southdowns	6	2 to 6	6	
Second quality	3	10	4	Lamb	4	0	4	
Prime large oxen	4	6	4	10	Leg. coarse calves	4	0	4
Prime Scots, &c.	5	0	5	2	Prime small	4	8	5
Coarse inf. sheep	3	10	4	6	Large hogs	4	0	4
Second quality	4	8	5	4	Meat-sm. porkers	4	8	5
Pr. coarse woolled	5	6	6	0				
Stoeking calves, 19s.	21s.	10s.	and quarter-old store pigs, 28s.					
	10s.	10s.	23s.					

Butchling calves, 19s. to 21s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 28s. to 32s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 18.

The supplies of meat on sale are somewhat extensive. For most descriptions there is a fair demand, at the annexed quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	3	2	3	6	Small pork	5	2	5	8
Middling ditto	3	8	4	2	Inf. mutton	3	8	4	2
Prime large do.	4	4	4	6	Middling ditto	4	4	4	10
Do. small do.	4	6	4	8	Prime ditto	5	0	5	4
Large pork	3	10	5	0	Veal	3	10	4	8

COVENT-GARDEN, SATURDAY, Dec. 16.—With the exception of trade being a little brisker than it was last week, little alteration has taken place since our last report. Pineapples are still abundant. Pears still continue to consist chiefly of Winter Nells, Buerri Del, Easter Buerri, and Van Mons Leon le Clerc. Grapes begin to fetch good prices. Oranges are becoming plentiful. Potatoes of good quality are also abundant. Prices for asparagus are getting lower. Rhubarb and sea-kale are each sufficient for the demand. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, heaths, mignonette, chrysanthemums, Chinese primulas, and roses.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 18.—Fair average supplies of potatoes are on sale. Most descriptions of produce are in fair demand, at about last week's currency. Last week's import was about 60 tons. Scotch Regents, 50s. to 75s. per ton; Kent and Essex Regents, 60s. to 80s.; Yorkshire Regents 60s. to 85s.; Flukes, 80s. to 110s.; Rocks, 50s. to 70s.

WOOL, Monday, Dec. 18.—Our market continues to be very moderately supplied with wool. Holders therefore are very firm in their demands, but the transactions both for home use and export are on a limited scale. The stocks held by the leading manufacturers are comparatively trifling.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 18.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 473 firkins butter, and 4,043 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 21,073 casks, &c. butter, and 1,060 bales and 93 boxes bacon. In the Irish butter market the business doing is very limited, though the change to colder weather caused more inquiry last week, and some sales effected at prices in favour of buyers. Limericks sold at 114s. on board; foreign sold well at an advance of 4s. to 6s. per cwt. The recent advance on bacon is barely maintained, and in some instances is reduction submitted to.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Dec. 18.—Our market continues quiet, no change of importance having taken place since our last report. Holders are very firm, and the few sales effected during the past week have fully supported former quotations. Continental advices show increased firmness on the part of holders, and in the Belgian market an improvement of 5s. to 6s. per cwt. has taken place. Mid and East Kents, 100s., 147s., 190s.; Farnhams and Country, 100s., 120s., 160s.; Weald of Kents, 80s., 115s., 130s.; Sussex, 70s., 100s., 112s.; Yearlings, 95s., 120s., 135s.

SEED, Monday, Dec. 18.—The trade for seeds has been active during the past week. There has been a ready sale for all quantities of new French red cloverseed, at an advance of 2s. to 3s. upon the values of last Monday. The supply of this description has materially fallen off both in quantity and quality. There are not any supplies to hand of either English, American, or German seed. White seed is quiet, and with little business passing. Trefoils are held for higher prices, and command full rates.

OIL, Monday, Dec. 18.—Lined oil moves off slowly, at 23s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is very firm, at 58s. for foreign refined. In other oils sales progress slowly, at late rates. French spirits of turpentine are quoted at 46s. per cwt. on the spot. American refined petroleum 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. per gallon.

TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 18.—The tallow trade is very quiet to-day, and prices are lower than on Monday last. The quotation for F.Y.C. on the spot is 40s. per cwt. Town tallow 40s. net cash. Rough fat, 2s. 6d. per 8lbs.

COALS, Monday, Dec. 18.—Market heavy at the rates of last day. Haswell, 22s.; Hettens, 22s.; Hartlepool, 21s. 7d.; Belmont, 20s. 6d.; Tanfield, 16s. 8d.; Holywell, 19s.; Pillington, 19s. 6d.; St. Helena, 18s. 6d.; Hartley's, 18s. 9d. 50 fresh ships, 45 at sea.

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OSTEO IDON FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH,

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A Single Tooth, from Five Shillings.

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AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

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An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED, New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

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The medical profession for Thirty Years have approved of this pure solution of Magnesia as the best remedy for Gout and stomachic disorders of every kind; and as a mild aperient it is especially adapted for ladies and children.

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CAUTION.—See that "Dinneford and Co." is on each bottle and red label over the cork.

LIGHT AND SWEET BREAD.

AS German Yeast is frequently unfit to mix with Human Food, and Fresh Brewers' Yeast is often difficult to procure, HARPER TWELVETREES'

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is invaluable to Housekeepers, as it makes sweeter, purer, and more wholesome Bread than Brewers' Yeast, or ordinary Baking Powder; and the most ignorant CANNOT MISTAKE in using it. Sold in penny packets, and in 6d. and 1s. cansisters; and wholesale by HARPER TWELVETREES', LIMITED, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

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CELEBRATED UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS
AND THE NEW CANDLE,

Self-lighting, requiring neither Paper nor Scraping.

SOFT, DELICATE, AND WHITE SKINS.

WITH A DELIGHTFUL AND LASTING FRAGRANCE.

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LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

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The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., to 15s. each. Postage 6d.

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LEA and CO.'S price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALL'S-END, the best House Coal, direct by screw steamers, or the Great Northern Railway, is 27s. per ton; Hartlepool, or Wall's-end Seconda, 26s.; best Silketons (G. Chambers and Co.'s) or Wharfedale, 24s.; second-class, 23s.; new Silketons, 22s.; Clay Cross, 24s. and 21s.; Derby Bright, 21s.; Barnsley, 21s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 21s.; Hartley, 19s.; best small, 14s. Coke, 14s. per chaldron, net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and CO.'S Offices, Highbury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.

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NUNN'S MARSALA or BRONTE WINE.

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This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY gained the Dublin Prize Medal. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome.

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Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

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